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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS

IN

FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

AND WITH

FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND,

RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From April 1, 1854, to March 31, 1855.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1855.

LONDON:
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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Benin.*

No. 1.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, March 27, 1854.

A PORTUGUESE brig, the "Calabar," arrived at this roadstead on the 25th instant, direct from Lisbon in twenty-eight days. The master, Petta, reports that several vessels are being fitted out in Cuba and the United States, for slave adventures on the coast; the people engaged in Slave Traffic expecting that the greater part of the squadron will be withdrawn in consequence of the war with Russia.

There is an American barque, called the "*Carrier Pidgeon*," formerly a steam-vessel, now lying off Whydah; she is offered for sale to the slave-traders at that place, and will no doubt be bought by them in conjunction with Domingo Martins of Porto Novo.

This vessel, it is said, brought over the proceeds of the slaves shipped in the "*Manuelita*," and other vessels from Aghwey and Little Popoe last year; as there are many doubloons now in circulation at the ports in the Bight of Benin, there is very little doubt that such is the fact. In the mean time, the "*Carrier Pidgeon*" is lying off Whydah with a ground tier of casks apparently filled with palm oil; I say apparently, for I feel certain that, although the casks are smeared with palm oil, and it may be seen when the bungs of the cask are removed, it is merely a few gallons of oil which is floating on the top of the water, and which can be pumped off whenever required.

The Portuguese schooner "*Veloz*," was lying off Whydah some few weeks since under these suspicious circumstances, and she has since disappeared and is not to be heard of.

I have recommended the commanders of Her Majesty's cruisers, that with those vessels laying thus suspiciously, over which we can by Treaty exercise the right of search, a pump should be used to ascertain the real contents of the casks.

In addition to the "*Veloz*," I fear the Sardinian brigantine "*Fulmine*," that has been running from port to port in the Bight of Benin for several months, and is now not to be heard of, has also got off with a cargo of slaves.

Your Lordship may depend on my preventing the revival of the Slave Trade at this place. I fear, however, that Kosoko, with his Cabooceer at Epé, will be again engaging in this traffic, as Senhor Lima, who, after the attack on Jaboo by the Egbas, was the only slave-trader remaining with Kosoko, has been reinforced by two of his co-traffickers in human beings from Whydah; they were landed about a month since from a French cutter, tender to the French factory at Whydah.

The movements of these people shall be watched as far as it is possible to do so, there being only one vessel, the "Arab," stationary in the Bights; the services of the "Plumper" and "Antelope" being required elsewhere.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 2.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th March last,* acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government entirely approved of my having promised, under certain conditions, to afford my protection to those Africans who, having purchased their emancipation from slavery in Brazil, have settled in Lagos.

It is gratifying to me to have received the approval of Her Majesty's Government in this matter, as it armed me with authority to interfere on behalf of 230 of these self-emancipated Africans, lately brought to Lagos from Rio Janeiro and Bahia, in the Portuguese three-masted vessel "Linda Flor," the supercargo of which vessel persisting in retaining on board the vessel, for the balance of \$1,000 freight, due to him by the emancipated Africans, property of theirs remaining on board, to three times that amount in value; and with which it was strongly suspected he intended to make off.

I am informed there are numbers of self-emancipated Africans in the principal towns in Brazil, who were formerly shipped from the ports in the Bight of Benin, most anxious to come to Lagos: on the one hand they are urged by the Government to emigrate; on the other they are restrained by the exorbitant exactions of the Government officials, and the difficulty of obtaining a passage across except by Portuguese vessels, on board of which they receive the worst treatment, and are not free from the risk of being landed against their will at Whydah, or some other place where they would immediately be seized, reduced to slavery again, and the property on board the vessel become the possession of the Portuguese captain or supercargo.

Under these circumstances, I respectfully submit to your Lordship whether Her Majesty's Consuls in the principal ports in Brazil could not, by their interposition, smooth the way towards these poor people obtaining a passage across to Lagos, without suffering so many exactions, and incurring the risk of being plundered of their property, and again reduced to slavery.

There are at Bahia and Rio Janeiro always English vessels seeking for freight; now these poor people will always pay, by their passage-money and the property they bring across with them, a remunerating freight; and any English vessel, during the months from February to August, will be sure of a freight of palm-oil from this port to England. At this moment there are upwards of 1,000 puncheons of palm-oil on Lagos beach, ready for shipment, and several hundred more in the town also ready, and there are no vessels to charter; the mail-packets, from their irregularity, and the manner in which they are conducted, being useless to the commerce of the place, beyond the medium of correspondence they afford.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 59.

No. 3.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

WHEN I was at Porto Novo, which town is on the confines of the Dahomian territory, I took the opportunity of notifying to King Gezo my appointment as Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin; and, at the same time, I alluded to the embarkation of slaves which took place some months since from the beach near to Whydah.

Copy of my letter to King Gezo I have now the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Consul Campbell to the King of Dahomey.

King's Town, Porto Novo, April 13, 1854.

BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Esquire, the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, being at the King's Town, Porto Novo, takes the opportunity and this means of sending his respectful compliments to the King of Dahomey.

The Consul being specially charged by the Government of Her Majesty to watch over the faithful observance of the Treaties concluded by the different Chiefs with Her Majesty, whose territories lay between Cape St. Paul's and Cape Formosa, deeply regrets to have to inform the King of Dahomey, that it has come to the knowledge of the Consul that shipments of slaves have taken place near to Whydah, within the last eight months.

The Queen's Government, reposing every confidence in the King of Dahomey, is sure that the King will use his utmost authority to prevent any infraction of the Treaty the King concluded for the suppression of the Slave Trade with Captain Forbes on behalf of Her Majesty. The Consul therefore begs that the King will issue the most positive orders to his Chiefs at Whydah and the other ports in the King's dominions, to prevent the embarkation of slaves. The Consul wishes the King health and peace, and a long life of happiness.

No. 4.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 7th March last,* approving of my having advised the Chiefs of Abbeokuta to send a headman with an armed force to reside at Lagos for the protection of their trading countrymen, and directing me to use my best endeavours to obtain the release of those Egbas captured near Lagos in the month of December last by Kosoko's soldiers who may still remain in the hands of Kosoko's people.

I shall not fail, my Lord, to use every effort for this purpose. In the meantime I have made application to the Rev. Mr. Crowther for information, several of the captured Egbas having been redeemed by their relatives and returned home; and I took advantage of some messengers from Kosoko and his Cabooceers coming to the Consulate a few days since, to send to those Chiefs on no account to sell any of the Egbas remaining in their hands; and I

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 58.

purpose after returning from Badagry and Porto Novo to visit Epé, with the view of getting the Egbas still in captivity there restored to liberty, if not unconditionally, at any rate on easy terms of ransom to their families.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 5.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 9th of March last,* acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government approved of my having, accompanied by Lieutenant Bedingfeld, met the Chiefs belonging to Kosoko for the purpose of negotiating peace between them and the King and Chiefs of Lagos.

The approval of Her Majesty's Government of my proceedings in this matter, is most gratifying and encouraging to me.

No. 6.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 30, 1854.

I REGRET to have to inform your Lordship that on the 16th instant, a brig, hoisting no national colours, ran into the roadstead of Whydah between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, and about 1 o'clock on the same afternoon sailed with about 700 slaves which had been embarked from the beach of Whydah town. I have good information, on which I can rely, that a few days subsequently the Portuguese schooner "*Aguia*" (detained last year off Aghwey by Lieutenant Beresford, commanding Her Majesty's brigantine "*Spy*," and sent by him to St. Paul de Loanda for adjudication, but restored by the Court of Mixed Commission) also carried off upwards of 300 slaves from Whydah beach.

The embarkation of slaves on board the brig took place in the most barefaced manner. There were laying at anchor in the roadstead and close to the slave brig, an English barque, the name of which I have not learnt; the English schooner "*Elizabeth*," of Sierra Leone, Mr. Davis, master, with the Rev. Messrs. Freeman and Wharton from the Gold Coast on board as passengers, bound on a mission to the King of Dahomey, who must have witnessed the painful sight; and three French vessels attached to the French factory at Whydah.

The slave brig must have had her equipment complete, as Mr. Davis, the master of the "*Elizabeth*," declares he saw no water or provisions hoisted into the brig, only slaves, which were passed on board from the canoes as they were brought alongside.

There are on the Bights Station, at this time, but two cruizers (Her Majesty's ship "*Arab*" being ordered to the West Indies), Her Majesty's ship "*Crane*" and Her Majesty's ship "*Antelope*." The latter, in consequence of the breaking down of the "*Faith*," contract mail-steamer packet, has been taken off the station for a month in order to convey the mail brought by the "*Faith*" as far as Sierra Leone, to Fernando Po and the Bights of Biafra.

I am credibly informed that Domingo Martins expects shortly a vessel fully equipped to take off a cargo of his slaves. He will hardly dare to make the shipment from Porto Novo, at which place he has no less than six large English vessels loading with palm oil, and at Apé Vista, another of his establishments, two more English vessels, and one under a foreign flag, I believe Portuguese. The aggregate tonnage of the eight vessels cannot be less than 3,000 tons.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 60.

P.S.—*June 7.* In a note I have just received from Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," under date "Off Badagry, June 5, 1854," he states, "I stood into Whydah on the afternoon of the 15th, boarded everything, exchanged colours with the American brig 'Spread Eagle' off Great Popoe, and she was off by noon next day with nearly 700."

No. 7.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 1, 1854.

AFTER the termination of the civil war in Lagos in the month of August last, and when tranquillity was restored and trade had resumed its course, it was found that the Commercial Agreement entered into between the late King Akitoye and the merchants and supercargoes trading at Lagos, did not work well, particularly that Article of the Agreement which imposed a duty of 3 per cent. on the merchandize imported; some of the merchandize so imported being afterwards exported intact to other parts of the coast, and the King's people insisting on opening bales and other packages in order to see their contents.

With a view to put an end to the differences continually arising between the King's people appointed to collect the revenue and the merchants, and to facilitate and render easy the collection of the revenue, I proposed to the King and to the merchants that the import duty should be altogether abolished, and the export duty raised to a point to meet the loss of that on imports.

The King and the merchants, after a few conferences on the subject, adopted my suggestion, and it was accordingly arranged that, for the future, there should be a duty on all palm oil exported of two heads of cowries the puncheon, and three strings of cowries (equal at present to 2*d.* sterling) per lb. of ivory, and a moderate duty on other exports which at present are of trifling amount.

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the new Commercial Agreement entered into between King Docemo and the merchants and supercargoes trading to Lagos, which came into operation on the 27th March last.

The working of this new arrangement should be very satisfactory to King Docemo, as by a return now before me of export duties paid between the 27th March and 31st May, it appears that the King has received during that period no less than 3,744 heads of cowries, the head of cowrie bearing a value equal now to 4*s.* sterling; but this amount is short of what it would have been had there been a sufficiency of shipping, as there are on the beach and in the town about 1,500 puncheons of palm oil waiting shipment.

The export duty is by no means the only source of revenue enjoyed by the King. He has his market dues, which must be considerable, and a further duty on the import of the oil into Lagos, besides fines and confiscations, which together will reach at least half the amount of the duty received annually on exports; making a total of about 50,000 heads of cowries annually.

There is another great and economical advantage to the King that, whereas during the Slave Trade time, that horrid Traffic being confined to the King, his chiefs and principal people, they were all under the necessity of feeding their numerous slaves and dependents; now, all these of an adult age are able, by trading in palm oil and other articles, to maintain themselves, and it is only the favourite wives and the slave children who are now fed by them.

I am informed by those competent to form an opinion on the subject, that revenue to be derived by King Docemo through the palm oil and other legitimate trade will far exceed any revenue ever derived heretofore in Lagos from Slave Trade; and I look forward, my Lord, to the prospect that wherever the Slave Trade is quelled, and the disputes and wars arising out of it are succeeded by peace and security, that the Chiefs will find themselves gainers by the great increase of revenue a regular and uninterrupted trade in palm oil and other productions will produce. Even the King of Dahomey, if he would make up his

mind to expel from his territories the nest of slave-traders who now harbour at Whydah, and prevent a full development of the legitimate traffic the Kingdom of Dahomey is capable of producing, would find himself a gainer by abandoning the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Agreement made between King Docemo and the Merchants and Supercargoes trading at Lagos, commencing March 27, 1854.

WHEREAS, at a conference held between King Docemo and the merchants and supercargoes of the ships in the roads, it was deemed expedient, for raising a revenue for the King and for the effectual protection of trade, to form a mutual agreement, and the following Articles were considered by all parties to be equitable, and were this day accepted :

1st. That in consideration of the King giving protection and assistance to the merchants, and observing the following Articles, they consented to pay a duty of two heads of cowries to him on every puncheon containing 120 gallons of palm oil exported from Lagos.

2nd. That to prevent the occurrence, as far as possible, of fire and theft, no native shall be allowed to erect a house on the east point of the river entrance, where the merchants' stores are situated.

3rd. That the King consents to relinquish trading on his own account.

4th. That no merchant's trade shall at any time be stopped on any account whatever, except for directly refusing to pay the duties hereby agreed to be paid to the King.

5th. Any native taking credit from a merchant, and being unable or unwilling to pay, shall not be allowed to trade until he shall have come to a satisfactory arrangement with his creditors ; and the King will, on hearing and deciding on the justice of the creditor's claims, sell or cause to be sold the house and property of such party, for the benefit of his creditors. Any merchant or trader doing business with such debtor before an arrangement has been made, shall be subject to a fine of 1,000 gallons of palm oil, to be paid to the King.

6th. That the merchants settling at Lagos shall be allowed to choose their own places of residence in any spot previously unoccupied, or which they may purchase from any previous occupant.

7th. The King engages to exercise his authority to punish and use the utmost vigilance to prevent the constant thefts committed on the merchants, whether by canoemen and others employed by them, or by any person inhabiting the town, and on any complaint or charge made by the merchants against any person robbing them, or for receiving knowingly property stolen from them, being proved, the King engages to punish such thief or receiver of stolen goods with heavy fine or imprisonment.

8th. That on any well-founded complaint by the merchants against canoemen or others who have engaged to work for a merchant for a time agreed upon for refusing to do such work, without any just cause for refusal, the King engages to inflict such punishments, by fine or imprisonment, as the case may deserve.

9th. That the King shall have the right of claiming payment of his duties in cowries.

No. 8.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 2, 1854.

BY the last packet there arrived here 2 self-emancipated Africans from the Havana, with their wives, who had, I believe, made the voyage by way of England to Sierra Leone. They brought me a letter from his Excellency Governor Kennedy, recommending them to my care.

I have obtained them a house, and shall request the King to allot them a piece of ground, whereon to erect a house of their own.

These Africans have informed some of their countrymen whom they found here—also formerly from Havana—that their friends and fellow-countrymen in that city, to the number of about 200, who have emancipated themselves, and who have the means of paying their passage across to Lagos, are most desirous of coming here, now they know that there is a British Consul resident at Lagos, who will protect them from being plundered and again reduced to slavery.

They state that although the Local Government of Cuba are anxious to get rid of them, yet they are subject, when emigrating, to great extortions in the shape of fees to the Government officials, and that the countenance and assistance of Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana would greatly facilitate their emigrating to Lagos. They have got some friend here to write a letter for them to a friend in Havana, which they beg me to forward; having no sure means of doing so, I have taken upon myself to transmit the same, in the hope that your Lordship will direct the letter to be sent to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, with directions that he will be kind enough to render every assistance in his power to those self-emancipated Africans in Cuba who were formerly shipped from this part of the coast, and are now desirous of returning to Lagos.

It is very desirable, if possible, that these people should make the passage from the Havana to Lagos in an English vessel, in order to secure good treatment on the voyage; such vessel, during the months from February to the end of August, will be sure of obtaining a freight of palm oil to England.

The addition of these self-emancipated Africans from the Brazils and from Cuba, to the population of Lagos, is a great desideratum, as, by their habits of industry, and their semi-civilized manners and condition, they form a good counterpoise to the leaven of the old Slave Trade population of this place, as they will remain apart and unmixed with its old feuds and animosities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 9.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 1, 1854.

SHORTLY after my arrival at my post, I received a letter from Mayoo, the Chief of Badagry, informing me that he expected an attack from the King of Porto Novo, who was anxious to restore the expelled Chiefs of Badagry to their town.

I wrote to the King of Porto Novo, requesting him to defer his hostile intentions against Mayoo, telling him that as soon as I could spare the time I would proceed to Badagry and to Porto Novo, and endeavour to arrange matters peaceably.

Various causes prevented me leaving Lagos for Badagry and Porto Novo, until the 2nd of April. In the meantime Mayoo's Slave Trade transactions, and the assistance he was openly rendering to Domingo Martins, in procuring slaves for him, became known to me, and were duly reported by me to your Lordship, and to the Commander-in-chief; and I made myself acquainted, through the printed correspondence on Slave Trade, and the local sources of information within my reach, with the origin, causes, and history of the disturbances which had occurred at Badagry, which led to the expulsion of the rightful Chiefs of that town, and

of several other populous towns and villages in the country around Badagry; and the substituting of Mayoo, a refugee from Porto Novo, and previously living at Badagry on sufferance, through the kindness of the expelled Chiefs.

On my arrival at Badagry, I invited the principal inhabitants of the town to meet me, as I wished to learn their sentiments, and to inform them, that Mayoo having grossly violated the Treaty, and by so doing having incurred the severe displeasure of Her Majesty's Government, and, his being considered Chief of Badagry, having led to the complete stoppage of the trade, compelling the merchants, missionaries, and all the industrious traders to abandon the town, it became necessary, as a warning to the other water-side Chiefs, that they would not be allowed to violate their Treaty engagements for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded with Her Majesty, with impunity, and in order to restore the trade to Badagry, to remove Mayoo from the Chieftainship, and to restore the expelled Chiefs and their people, who were the original and rightful owners of the town and the territories belonging to it; and that I should, after visiting the King of Porto Novo and the expelled Chiefs, and learning their wishes and intentions, call upon Mayoo to retire; and, in the event of his refusing to do so peaceably, endeavour to obtain the assistance of the senior officer of the Bights division, and compel him to remove.

In reply to this, they entered into a long account how Mayoo had supported British interests and protected the English during the civil war, &c., and they concluded with expressing their wish for Mayoo to remain. At this meeting there were only Mayoo's immediate followers, about eighty, who were implicated with him in the revolt he had raised several years before against his Sovereign the King of Porto Novo, and who fled with him, and had since stuck to his fortunes; about fifty Lagos people, who could have no voice in the matter, and some half-dozen liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, who being deeply indebted to the English merchants, formerly at Badagry, would not follow them to Lagos, but preferred existing in indolence on the labour of their slaves.

I next proceeded to Porto Novo, and had an interview with the King and a numerous body of his Chiefs and principal people. He stated to me that he was very anxious for the restoration of the Badagry Chiefs and their numerous followers to their town; that the grossest injustice had been done by their expulsion, which had been caused by the very people to whom they had kindly given shelter, Mayoo and Akitoye; that the former had some twenty years previously headed a rebellion against one of his predecessors, which had brought great misery and distress to thousands, but ended in the expulsion of Mayoo; that, from the time that had elapsed, he felt no ill-will towards Mayoo, and he would willingly receive him back to his old post of Mayoo (the name is a title), which had never been filled up, and that he (the King) would even assist him to build his house; that so long as Mayoo remained Chief of Badagry, and the proper Chiefs, his relatives and countrymen, were wanderers on the face of the earth, he could allow none of the trade which the town of Porto Novo commanded to go to Badagry, to enrich and elevate a man who would exercise the power he obtained through that trade, in bribing the Egbas to attack him; that the Egbas had already attacked many of the towns within his dominions, laying them waste, making captives of the unfortunate inhabitants, many of whom they sent to their farms at Abbeokuta, selling the others to Domingo Martins; that he wished to cultivate the friendship of the English; and if Mayoo was removed from the Chieftainship of Badagry, and the rightful Chiefs and people restored, he would then direct the large trade in palm oil, the monopoly of which Domingo Martins now enjoys, on to Badagry; that he had no friendship for Domingo or any of his countrymen; and that he knew his subjects would make much more advantageous trade with the English at Badagry than they did with Domingo Martins at Porto Novo; that very few of the expelled Badagrians were then in Porto Novo, as they were compelled to wander about seeking for a livelihood, but that he would assemble as many as he could of the principal people in four days, as he was desirous that I should see them, and hear what they had to relate, and their wishes from their own lips.

I left Porto Novo for Badagry and returned on the fourth day, when I had a long and interesting interview with the Badagry Chiefs, who feelingly described the position they were placed in through having given shelter, first to Mayoo, and subsequently to Akitoye; that they were separated from their children, many of whom were receiving instruction at the missionary schools when their expulsion

took place, and they were now wandering about the town of Porto Novo, living on the bounty of their friends; that they were most desirous to return to the home of their fathers, and they earnestly entreated me to assist them to do so. I left, assuring them I would do all in my power to procure their restoration to Badagry.

On my return to Lagos I called at Badagry and sought an interview with Mayoo, and, on the morning of my departure, sent for him twice; he did not come, and as the day was advancing I had to leave without seeing him.

No. 10.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 11, 1854.

FEARING from the temper in which the Rev. Mr. Townsend left Badagry that he would, on his return to Abbeokuta, so represent the matter of Mayoo's removal from thence to the Chiefs of Abbeokuta as to induce them to attack the Popoe towns and villages, as they did on a former occasion, under the pretext of assisting Mayoo and Badagry—indeed it was reported to me that Mr. Townsend on his journey back to Abbeokuta, greatly alarmed the inhabitants of the towns and villages that lay in his route, by telling them that as soon as the Consul expelled Mayoo the Egbas would be down on the unfortunate villagers (who had nothing to do in the matter), and that he had diverged from his route to go to the large town of Adu to beg of the Chiefs not to molest the Egbas on their march towards Badagry—I dispatched Mr. Moses to Porto Novo in my whale-boat, with a letter addressed to him, the contents of which he was to make known to the King of that town, in whose peaceable disposition and reasonableness I had great confidence; copy of which letter I do myself the honour to transmit.

Mr. Moses, on his return to Badagry, forwarded me a letter from the King of Porto Novo, waiving the question of Mayoo's removal from Badagry, but leaving the responsibility of his remaining there on my shoulders. Copy of this letter I have the honour also to transmit.

I did not hesitate to incur this responsibility, as one of Mayoo's principal supporters who had left Porto Novo with him, has since returned to that town, despite Mayoo's offers and entreaties, and was kindly received by the King; another of his followers ('tis said a relative) committed suicide.

Judging that the King of Porto Novo's kind treatment to the revolted vassal who had returned to his allegiance, would have its effect on many others when the expelled Badagry Chiefs should be reinstated, I addressed a letter to Mayoo; copy of which I do myself the honour to forward to your Lordship.

After waiting several days, I received a letter from Mayoo, which has evidently been drawn up by his friends at Abbeokuta. A copy of this letter I transmit, and I hope that my efforts to restore the Badagry Chiefs to their homes, from which they were most unjustly expelled, and in doing so, restore Badagry to its former, indeed I hope to a far greater, commercial importance, will meet with your Lordship's approval.

Inclosure I in No. 10.

Consul Campbell to Mayoo, Chief of Badagry.

Mayoo,

Lagos, June 1, 1854.

THE King of Porto Novo having left the matter of your remaining at Badagry entirely to me, I now acquaint you that having no personal ill feeling towards you, and having acted, in endeavouring to remove you from Badagry, from a sense of duty in consequence of the part you have taken in assisting Domingo Martins' Slave Trade, which I duly reported to Her Majesty's Government and to the Admiral Commanding-in-chief Her Majesty's naval forces in this coast, I shall not press for your leaving Badagry. But it must be understood that when the expelled Chiefs return to Badagry, you, and they all,

CLASS B.

resume the same ranks and offices you held before the civil broke out. Above all it must be understood that peace is made between you, and that all and every one must forget what has passed, forgive each other, and for the future live in peace and good brotherhood, and by abstaining altogether from any Slave Trade transactions, promote to the utmost the innocent trade in palm oil and other native productions; for in such peaceful pursuits, and the profit, contentment, and happiness they will produce, you will all learn to forget the wrongs and injuries you have suffered at each other's hands, and you will one and all find me a faithful and true friend.

Let me know by letter if you are satisfied with my arrangements for restoring peace and trade to Badagry.

Your well-wisher,
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.

Mayoo, Chief of Badagry, to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Badagry, June 10, 1854.

IN answer to your letter of June 1st, which I had the honour to receive. I beg permission to observe that I have consulted my friends and supporters the Egbas, and under their advice I am fully prepared to receive back the old Chiefs of Badagry.

As the return of so many Chiefs and their followers may be attended by some confusion and danger of misunderstanding, I would respectfully suggest that some written arrangement should be drawn up, which, in the event of any future disagreements, may be referred to, and for the general guidance of all parties.

I beg also most respectfully to observe, that I shall be ready when these arrangements take effect, to give up the Treaty with the British Government I have the honour to hold, with the understanding that in any Treaty with the British Government, my name shall appear with the other Chiefs of Badagry.

It is suggested by the Egba Chiefs that no stranger, being a refugee Chief, be received into Badagry after this but with the common consent of all concerned, including yourself and the Egba Chiefs.

Thanking you for your letter, and your efforts to make peace between us, I have, &c.

(Signed) MAYOO ^{his} X. _{mark.}

No. 11.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 4.)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 14, 1854.

THE squadron in the Bights is now reduced to one vessel, Her Majesty's ship "Crane," which left for Fernando Po for water on the 12th instant. Her Majesty's ship "Arab" has left for the Cuba station, and Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope" for Gibraltar.

Yesterday morning the French brig-of-war "Entreprenant," commanded by Capitaine de corvette M. Du Creste Villeneuve, anchored in the roads.

The weather has been so bad that I have not been able as yet to see Captain Villeneuve, but he this morning sent in an officer with a note, informing me that he is to cruize in the Bights. I hope to-morrow morning if the weather should be fine to see him to breakfast, after which I will accompany him on his visit to King Docemo.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 12.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 23, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 4th of May,* I have to state to you that I approve the measures which you intended taking with the view of obtaining the liberation of the Egbas captured by Kosoko in December last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON

No. 13.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, September 21, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatches of the 1st and 11th of June, giving an account of the proceedings which you had thought proper to take for the removal of Mayoo from his position as Chief of Badagry, I have to observe that you have received no instruction from Her Majesty's Government which will bear you out in the course which you have thus adopted.

You will; on the contrary, see, by reference to Lord Wodehouse's letter to the Secretary to the Admiralty of the 27th of April, 1853, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 28th of that month, that Her Majesty's Government disapproved a similar attempt which had been made by Vice-Consul Fraser in January 1853, and that British authorities would act improperly in interfering in the local quarrels and proceedings of the African Chiefs, unless such proceedings affected British interests or the stipulations of Treaties.

You will have seen by my despatch of the 7th of December, 1853,† that Her Majesty's Government disapproved of your suggestion that the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty concluded with Mayoo on the 18th of March, 1852, should be annulled; and therefore I am at a loss to understand how you could have stated that you had made a formal demand on Mayoo to deliver up his Treaty; and that, when the expelled people returned, and a supreme Chief was elected and acknowledged, you intended to transfer the Treaty to the newly-elected Chief, and, if necessary, to take stringent measures to compel Mayoo to resign the Treaty held by him.

In the same despatch you were informed that, if the Chief of Badagry should violate any of the stipulations of the Treaty held by Mayoo, it would be the duty of the Commander-in-chief on the West African Station to direct that measures of coercion should be adopted, in order to enforce the due observance of that Treaty.

You seem, however, to have acted against Mayoo without any concert with the naval authorities on the station; and I have to state to you that I highly disapprove of your having done so.

You will explain to me, without loss of time, your conduct with reference to the several points above alluded to.

No. 14.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 21, 1854.

WITH reference to my preceding despatch of this day's date, I have to remark that I have some difficulty in reconciling the friendly tone adopted by you towards Alajogun, the King of Porto Novo, with the harsh measures which you are disposed to take against Mayoo, inasmuch as the former appears to harbour slave-dealers, such as Domingo Martinez, who carries on his Traffic in

* No. 4.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 49.

Slaves and palm oil under the protection of Alajogun, while no accusation of the kind is made against Mayoo.

I have also to observe, with reference to your statement that Mayoo had broken his Anti-Slave Trade Treaty, and was therefore a fit object for the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government, that the fact does not seem to be at all clearly proved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 15.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Lagos, August 1, 1854.

ON the 28th ultimo the United States' frigate "Constitution," bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Mayo, the Commander-in-chief of the United States' naval forces on the West Coast of Africa, anchored in Lagos Roads.

Proceeding, on the following day, to pay my respects to Commodore Mayo, I met, just inside the bar, two boats from the frigate, bringing Flag-Lieutenant Rodgers and a party of officers on a visit to the town. I returned to the town with the officers, and accompanied them on their visit to King Docemo, to whom I introduced them.

Lieutenant Rodgers briefly explained to King Docemo that the object of the Commodore's visit to the coast was the protection of American commerce, and the suppression of Slave Trade carried on by vessels assuming the flag of the United States.

The officers were well received by King Docemo, who expressed himself much pleased with their visit.

Lieutenant Rodgers, before taking leave of King Docemo, assured him that Commodore Mayo, although confined to his cot from a severely-sprained ankle, would be happy to see King Docemo and his Chiefs on board the "Constitution."

Lieutenant Rodgers and the officers who accompanied him, before embarking to return to their ship, walked over a great part of the town of Lagos. The extent, population, cleanliness (they visited the best part), and the order that prevailed, surprised them. I gave Lieutenant Rodgers every information respecting the trade of Lagos, and the prospect of its increase could the Slave Trade be extinguished in other parts of the Bight of Benin.

On the following day several more officers of the Commodore's staff came to the town, visited the King and his Chiefs, and formally invited them to visit the Commodore on the following day.

The report of Lieutenant Rodgers and the officers who accompanied him having created considerable interest, I furnished Commodore Mayo with such information as I possessed, and sent him a spare copy of the "Papers on the Reduction of Lagos;" and I suggested that King Docemo and his Chiefs would favourably receive any proposition from the Commodore to conclude a Treaty with him.

On the next day I paid my official visit to Commodore Mayo, by whom, and by his officers, I was most courteously received, with the usual honours.

King Docemo and his Chiefs also paid their visit to Commodore Mayo. They were received with every demonstration of respect by the Commodore and his officers, and hospitably entertained in the Commodore's cabin.

The Commodore informed King Docemo and his Chiefs that the President and the Government of the United States were very anxious to see the Slave Trade entirely suppressed on the coast of Africa, and a legitimate commerce flourishing in its stead, that having heard there was a considerable commerce springing up in Lagos, and that American trading vessels began to visit the port, he was prepared to submit a proposition in writing to the King and his Chiefs, having for its object the protection of American citizens and their property when trading at Lagos, and conferring to them the same rights and privileges as are or may be conferred to the subjects of other Powers.

The proposition was then twice read over, and carefully interpreted to the King and Chiefs by a Mr. S. B. Williams, one of the Sierra Leone emigrants, who superintends the collection of the King's export revenue, and acts as interpreter to this Consulate; and, being approved of by them, they signed at foot a written acceptance of the Commodore's proposition.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of this paper, which I apprehend, although not in the form of a Treaty, has nevertheless all the force of one.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Engagement between the King and Chiefs of Lagos and Commodore Mayo.

COMMODORE MAYO, Commander-in-chief of the United States' naval forces on the west coast of Africa, having arrived off this port, desires to salute the King of Lagos.

The United States have for a long time maintained a squadron on the coast of Africa, to protect the persons and property of American citizens engaged in lawful commerce, and to arrest and bring to justice all persons who may endeavour to prosecute the Slave Trade under the cover of the American flag. The Commodore has heard with much satisfaction that the King of Lagos has done all in his power to suppress the African Slave Trade, and that he affords every facility to vessels that come to his territory for the purpose of lawful traffic. He would be much gratified by receiving from the King and Chiefs of Lagos some formal and written assurance that citizens of the United States may always trade freely with the people of Lagos in all ports, places, and rivers within their territory, and some pledge that the King and Chiefs will show no favour and give no privilege to the ships and traders of other countries, which they do not show to those of the United States, and that all citizens of the United States shall, under all circumstances, be placed upon the same footing with the citizens of the most favoured nation.

Commodore Mayo requests the King to receive the assurance of his high respect and consideration.

*United States' flag-ship "Constitution," off Lagos,
July 31, 1854.*

To His Majesty the King of Lagos.

Docemo, King of Lagos, with his chiefs and councillors, having carefully considered and discussed the propositions contained in the foregoing letter, do, on the part of themselves and of their country, hereby assent to all the aforesaid propositions, and solemnly promise and guarantee to all citizens of the United States every right and privilege which may at any time be granted to the most favoured nation with whom the King and Chiefs of Lagos have already formed, or may hereafter form a Treaty, or conclude an agreement.

(Signed)	KING ^{his} DOCEMO. mark.
	OLOOMOBONG ^{his} X mark.
	TALABEE ^{his} X mark.
	OLOOCOHE ^{his} X mark.
	ACHABONG ^{his} X mark.
	OBERCHOR ^{his} X mark.
	SERBER. ^{his} X mark.

Witnesses :

(Signed) JNO. RUDD,
Commander, United States' Navy.
C. R. P. RODGERS,
Flag-Lieutenant, African Squadron.
*Flag-ship "Constitution," off Lagos,
July 31, 1854.*

I, S. B. Williams, a native of Lagos, and collector of the revenue of the King of Lagos, having been educated at the English school at Sierra Leone, have faithfully interpreted to the King and Chiefs of Lagos the contents of the foregoing letter, and also the compact which they have signed, and I now certify that both the letter and compact are fully understood by them.

(Signed) S. B. WILLIAMS,

Collector and Interpreter to the British Consulate.

United States' Flag-ship "Constitution," off Lagos,

July 31, 1854.

(Signed) J. MAYO,

*Commander-in-chief of the United States' Naval Forces,
West Coast of Africa.*

Witness to signatures in the above, and to the signature of the interpreter to the British Consulate and collector of the King's revenue.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.

No. 16.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, August 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 1st and 11th June last, relative to Badagry, forwarded per mail-packet "Bacchante," I have now the honour to report to your Lordship, that fully relying on the good faith of Mayoo that he would, as he expressed his readiness to do in his letter to me of the 10th June last, copy of which was forwarded to your Lordship with my despatch of the 11th June, I proceeded on the 28th of the same month to Badagry, arriving there on the morning of the 30th.

On my way, I directed the Chief Wawu, who was living with his people in some miserable huts on a swampy point of land, to follow me to Badagry, and he overtook me a few miles below the town; on approaching it, I was met by my own messenger (whom I had forwarded the day previously in a fast, light canoe, to prepare Mayoo for my arrival accompanied by Wawu), with a message from Mayoo, that if Wawu landed at Badagry he should be shot. I was astonished at this message, feeling certain that his letter to me of the 10th June, wherein he expresses his readiness, after having consulted his friends the Egba Chiefs, to receive back the expelled Badagry Chiefs, had been prepared for him at Abbeokuta, with the knowledge and approval not only of the Egba Chiefs, but of his missionary friends also. I recommended Wawu to wait on the opposite side of the Lagoon, until I had obtained an explanation of Mayoo's extraordinary conduct. I then landed, and sent word to Mayoo that I should be ready to receive him in an hour.

After a lapse of two hours he came to my quarters accompanied by his people. On my asking him why he refused to allow Wawu to land, and alluding to his letter to me of the 10th June, the contents and purport of which he seemed fully cognizant of, he replied that he would not permit Wawu to land without the Egbas were present. I told him his conduct was extraordinary, after having expressed his readiness to receive Wawu and the other Chiefs; and that his then hostile conduct would have a bad effect on the expelled Chiefs, who would lose all confidence in the sincerity of his declarations; that if he would allow Wawu alone to land, shake hands and converse with him for a time, I might then prevail on him to return to his place of exile, until I sent for the Egbas. He then got up abruptly from the sofa, said he had already spoken, and that if Wawu landed he would be shot. I then told him not to leave in that manner; that it was the first time we had met as friends, and that he must take a glass of wine with me. He sat down again, and on the wine being handed to him, he passed it to one of his attendants, rose from his seat, and left me.

I then communicated to Wawu that he would not be allowed to land, and that he had better return to his place of refuge, and wait until the Egba

messengers arrived. He thanked me for my advice, but declared his determination never to return, and that he preferred dying in sight of his home, and that of his fathers, rather than returning. It appears that Wawu, on first hearing of Mayoo's hostile conduct, had immediately dispatched a messenger to Possoo, who lived in a town a few miles above Badagry, apprising him of what had occurred, and of his intention not to return; upon which Possoo sent about thirty small war canoes to protect Wawu from Mayoo's attacks.

I at once wrote to the Abbeokuta Chiefs informing them of Mayoo's unexpected conduct, and requested them to send their messengers to have the matter of the Chiefs' return amicably settled, and that I would wait ten days for the arrival of their messengers. I also wrote to King Docemo to send his messengers, and in about four days they arrived; in ten days the persons who carried my letter to Abbeokuta returned, but without any answer, written or verbal; and, on sending to them for information, all that I received was, that the Egba messengers might come the next day, or the day after. I waited three days, and after giving Mayoo ample notice, I quitted Badagry, first cautioning Wawu, in the event of hostilities taking place, that the missionary establishments and those of the merchants must not be molested.

I was induced to send the letter to the Egba Chiefs, not that I anticipated any good results from it, but, because the time required for an answer could be advantageously employed in removing away the families of the missionary schoolmasters, the merchants' property, and afford time to those Sierra Leone emigrants who wished it, to remove. Most of these, however, being adherents of Mayoo, and either holders of slaves or dealers in slaves, made no preparation to leave, nor did the schoolmasters of the Church Missionary Society avail themselves of the canoe sent by Mr. Gollmer, to remove their wives and children, although it was evident to every one, that on my leaving Badagry, hostilities would ensue; they appeared to trust in the overwhelming support Mayoo would receive from the Egbas.

On my informing Mayoo of my intention to return to Lagos, he expressed no wish for me to remain; on the contrary, his conduct and that of his people evinced a disposition rather to drive me away, as, every night, under my bedroom window an incessant noise of drums, horns, &c., was kept up the whole night, so as to prevent all sleep. At first I remonstrated with him, and requested he would cause the nuisance to be stopped; but finding my representations to him only had the effect of increasing the annoyance, I discontinued complaining.

Shortly after my return from Badagry to Lagos, on the 12th of July, 1854, information was brought that Wawu and Possoo had landed at Badagry, attacked the town, burnt a portion of it, and driven Mayoo's forces to the outskirts; but, that from some mismanagement, their ammunition fell short, and they were compelled to retreat, when Mayoo's forces rallied, pursued them, and committed some slaughter upon them.

Wawu and Possoo, having then been reinforced by the King of Porto Novo's soldiers, as well as by a force from the Chiefs of Adu, Mayoo and his followers abandoned Badagry without attempting its defence, and retired to Agido. Here some fighting took place; but Mayoo being hemmed in by land, and by the Lagoon, sent a message to King Docemo for assistance to remove to Lagos; and at King Docemo's request, I dispatched the large consular boat to Agido, to aid in bringing away Mayoo and his family. I obtained the services of Mr. Tickel, junior, clerk to Mr. Sandeman, who proceeded in the boat to Agido, had an interview with Mayoo, and finding that it was really his wish to proceed to Lagos, he then went to the Issoes, who had the command of the Lagoon and blockaded Agido, and requested them in my name to retire, and so allow Mayoo and his people to reach Lagos unmolested. The Issoes assured Mr. Tickel they would comply with my wishes; and before Mr. Tickel left Agido, they had all proceeded homewards. Mayoo's followers then embarked in the several canoes that had been sent for them under the protection of the consular boat, and during last night the last of them arrived with Mayoo, and are now living under King Docemo's protection.

I latterly felt very anxious that the expelled Badagry Chiefs should regain their homes through my interference; for I greatly feared from Kosoko's movements, he having sent many of his women and children by land to the town of Adu, not far from Badagry, and being hard pressed by the King of Jaboo to remove from Epé, evidently intending to gain a footing at Badagry, by assisting

to reinstate Wawu and Possoo, and the other expelled Chiefs, had he been allowed time to carry out and effect his intentions, his influence there would have been most inimical to every peaceful and good purpose; whereas the British influence, obtained by the reinstatement of these much injured Chiefs, will be exercised for every good purpose; first, for carrying out the great national object of suppressing the Slave Trade, and increasing the valuable legitimate trade, the resources for which abound so largely in this part of the western coast, and with its aid allaying the bitter animosities engendered between tribe and tribe by that scourge the Slave Trade, and to counsel and assist the Chiefs in levying moderate dues on the exportation of palm oil, &c., and substituting this means of raising a revenue in lieu of the precarious one of slave-dealing, kidnapping, &c.; and I purpose, after the sailing of the packet, proceeding to Badagry and Porto Novo to carry out these objects.

No. 17.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Lagos, August 12, 1854.

I REGRET to have to report to your Lordship the continued shipment of cargoes of slaves from the neighbourhood of the ports of Whydah, Aghwey, and Great and Little Popoe. The Chiefs of these towns consider they are not violating their Treaty engagements if they do not allow the embarkation of slaves immediately opposite to their towns, but at a few miles' distance.

The shipments that have come to my knowledge since my last report to your Lordship are the following:

A brig, under American colours, name unknown, took away from 400 to 500 slaves close to Great Popoe.

A Portuguese schooner from Lisbon, name unknown, master's name José da Costa Leite, took away about 400 slaves from near Great Popoe.

A small fore-and-aft schooner, without any national colours, and name unknown, took away from 300 to 400 slaves; and latterly, a brig, formerly under French colours, and called the "*Cæsar*," and a trader attached to the French factory at Whydah, carried off about 250 slaves. This vessel, a few months since, brought a cargo of rum and tobacco from the Brazils to Whydah for the French factory; she was then stated to be leaky and unseaworthy, and on Her Majesty's sloop "*Arab*" visiting the roadstead of Whydah, the French master requested Commander Ogle that he would appoint competent persons to survey the "*Cæsar*." This was done, and I believe a certificate was given of the brig's unseaworthiness. It appears that she remained at anchor in the roadstead until the arrival of the French brig of war "*Entreprenant*," when an application was made to Captain Du Creste Villeneuve for a survey on the vessel, which was held, and she was again declared unseaworthy; and I suppose an authorisation for the sale of the vessel was then obtained from Captain Villeneuve, for the "*Cæsar*" appears to have passed into the hands of the slave-dealers at Whydah, who, as might be expected, shipped slaves on board of her and sent her to Cuba.

The principal shippers of slaves by these vessels are, Domingo Martins, of Porto Novo, and the slave-dealers at Aghwey and Whydah, who send as supercargo, and to look after the sale of their cargoes in Cuba, a Spaniard named Domingo Mustich, himself also a considerable shipper.

I have also received information that an armed schooner, under Spanish colours, which made her appearance about three months since, and caused some uneasiness among the English shipping, was wrecked about two months since on Bonny Bar. The captain, mate, and supercargo of this vessel took passage to England on board the "*Forerunner*" mail-packet on her last voyage. My informant conversed with these people on board the packet when off Lagos, by whom he was told of the loss of the vessel, and that they had saved the specie that was on board; the name of the schooner he did not learn.

I deem it my duty to acquaint your Lordship with the fact that the vessels from the ports of Liverpool and Bristol, coming to the coast for cargoes of palm oil, particularly those consigned to Domingo Martins, have this year brought

with them an unusual number of puncheons (intended to be filled with palm oil) filled with fresh water as ballast, in consequence of Domingo Martins having by circulars and other means given notice to the mercantile houses engaged in the palm-oil trade from Bristol and Liverpool, that he would furnish them with cargoes for specie; they have therefore brought specie instead of merchandize, which would have ballasted their vessels. It is always necessary for vessels trading to the Bight of Benin to bring sufficient water to last their crews for the whole voyage, the difficulty of obtaining water from the coast being great; but all vessels carrying off slaves from the Bight of Benin (except those coming out fully equipped under the protection of the American flag), must experience the like difficulty. Now, as the same parties who supply palm oil to these Bristol and Liverpool vessels, at Porto Novo, Whydah, &c., are also shippers of slaves, and give no guarantee after receiving the specie or merchandize from the English supercargoes, for the due fulfilment of their engagements, it is to be feared that some of the large quantities of fresh water put on board the English vessels as ballast, becomes, at times, indirectly at the command of the slave-dealers.

I shall not fail to apprise Commodore Adams of this means of supplying the cruisers in the Bight of Benin with fresh water, instead of sending them off the station to Prince's Island or Fernando Po for a supply; as, beyond the quantity of fresh water required for the merchant-vessels' use, the surplus fresh water should be at the disposal of the Commanders of Her Majesty's vessels, and salt water will answer all the purpose for ballast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 18.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 17.)

My Lord,

Lagos, August 14, 1854.

ABOUT three years since the Admiralty authorized the reception on board of some of Her Majesty's ships stationed on this coast, of a limited number of youths from the schools at Sierra Leone, to learn navigation and seamanship.

Two young men, named James Davies and Samuel Davies, were selected from that excellent establishment, the Church Missionary Grammar-School, so ably conducted by the late Rev. Mr. Peyton, and received on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Volcano," under the command of Captain Coote.

During the very limited time the young men were attached to that vessel (about eighteen months, part of which time was profitably spent by them at Ascension, where, in the sail-loft at that depôt, they were taught to cut out and make sails), they learnt the practical part of navigation, and are now employed navigating vessels belonging to their countrymen at Sierra Leone, to and from this place, and between Sierra Leone and the Gambia. On my expressing to them pleasure at the proficiency they had acquired in so short a time, they informed me that Captain Coote had paid great personal attention to their progress.

This attempt to render native Africans useful in the pursuit of commerce in their own country having proved so successful, I am induced respectfully to submit the proposition to your Lordship, that some intelligent young men from the above school, and from the Wesleyan schools, may be received on board Her Majesty's steam-ships stationed on the coast, to learn the management of marine steam-engines, with the hope that they will arrive at equal proficiency as those who were taught navigation on board the "Volcano."

I hope I am not too sanguine in looking forward to the day when the great increase of legitimate commerce, on the total suppression of the Slave Trade, will require the aid of steam; that the efforts made to explore the Niger and the Tshadda will eventually be crowned with success; and that mercantile steam-boats will then be employed, not only on those rivers, but on the extensive Lagoons, particularly those stretching from Lagos as far on the east as the river Benin, and to the westward to within twenty miles of Whydah; when the services of native engineers will become most valuable.

CLASS B.

A few years since I paid a visit to the French establishment on the River Senegal, and I observed that the steam-boats on that extensive river were provided with engineers natives of the country, who had been instructed in France.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 19.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st August, reporting that the Commodore in command of the United States' squadron on the west coast of Africa had visited Lagos, and had concluded an Agreement on behalf of the United States' Government with the King and Chiefs of that place; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having given Commodore Mayo all the information and assistance in your power upon this occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 20.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of August, reporting your further proceedings for the purpose of reinstating at Badagry the Chiefs who were expelled from thence in 1851, and transmitting further information showing the participation of Mayoo in the slave dealings of Domingo Martinez.

I have to state to you in reply that I am still of opinion that you acted injudiciously in availing yourself as you did of the desire of the former rulers of Badagry to re-establish themselves in that town, in order to punish the *de facto* Sovereign Mayoo for his violation of the Treaty with Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and that you ought to have acted in concert with the naval Commander-in-chief in regard to this matter.

When you received from Mr. Gollmer the two letters addressed to him from Badagry on the 13th of October and on the 8th of November, 1853, by Mr. Wright and Mr. Coker, you should have transmitted copies of those letters to this Department, and Her Majesty's Government might then have exercised their discretion as to the expediency of instructing the Commodore on the African Station to concert with you the means of obtaining positive evidence of Mayoo's proceedings, and on proof being obtained of his participation in the Slave Trade, measures might have been taken openly in order to prevent the repetition of such practices.

No. 21.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 14.)

(Extract.)

Badagry, November 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 21st September,* wherein your Lordship remarks that you have some difficulty in reconciling the friendly tone adopted by me towards Alajogun, the King of Porto Novo, with the harsh measures which I am disposed to take against Mayoo, inasmuch as the former appears to harbour slave-dealers,

* No. 14.

such as Domingo Martinez, who carries on his Traffic in Slaves and palm oil under the protection of Alajogun, while no accusation of the kind is made against Mayoo.

When I read that accusation against Alajogun in the Rev. Mr. Townsend's letter, though satisfied at the time of its injustice, I did not like to take upon me boldly to contradict it until I had made inquiry on the subject, and taxed Alajogun with it, which I have since had an opportunity of doing. The traders, both European and native, declare Mr. Townsend's accusation not founded on fact; and Alajogun and his Chiefs indignantly deny it, and charge both Mr. Townsend and Mr. Gollmer with exciting the Egbas to overrun the whole seaboard from Porto Novo to Lagos, and by destroying their towns and villages, killing and capturing the Popoes, to make themselves masters of that part of it. The ravages the Egbas have committed within the last fifteen or twenty years upon many of the Popoe towns skirting the King of Porto Novo's territories certainly give Alajogun and his Chiefs ground for fearing such to be their intention and desire.

With regard to Domingo Martinez, the joint slave and palm-oil dealer, I must inform your Lordship that his establishment on the beach, which he calls Porto Novo, is about eight miles from the large town called by the same name where King Alajogun resides, and which lies inland, and that the King of Dahomey claims the sovereignty of that sea-shore, and to him Domingo Martinez pays a heavy tribute for his protection, and dues on all the palm oil shipped on from his place.

The King of Porto Novo has no desire to contest that sovereignty with his powerful neighbour and brother, as he calls Gezo, the King of Dahomey; Badagry having been from time immemorial the shipping port of Porto Novo, and heretofore yielding a handsome revenue to its Sovereigns. Therefore, if only for the pecuniary consideration, it is Alajogun's interest, by opening the trade to Badagry from Porto Novo, and causing its large commerce in palm oil to flow there, to induce Domingo Martinez, when deprived of the palm oil, to move nearer to Whydah. So far from this troublesome slave-dealer being favoured by Alajogun, the fact that Alajogun wishes to get rid of his neighbourhood, and that since Domingo established himself on the beach, now eight years since, he has not once visited Alajogun, bespeak the little friendship existing between them.

I hope, my Lord, to be excused feeling a little partiality for an African Monarch who on the first solicitation signed the Treaty for the abolition of the Slave Trade, &c., and, I believe, has faithfully observed it, and intends doing so; whose government, though a pure despotism, is mildly administered through the medium of his aged Chiefs; in whose town and territories order, peace, and security reign; who really loves and desires peace; and who, as well as his ancestors did, holds human life in that respect, that the very spilling of blood on the ground, even that of a slave, is punished by death, or expatriation by sale; who in his intercourse with strangers is candid, open, and courteous; and who promptly complied with a request I made to him soon after my arrival at Lagos to obtain the liberation of a Sierra Leone born boy, who had been kidnapped and sold in the neighbourhood of Whydah, by instituting a rigorous search for him, and paying a double ransom for him, sent him to me at Lagos without any request for repayment of his outlay.

No. 22.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 14th of August, I have to inform you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have, in compliance with your suggestion contained therein, directed that a limited number of young Africans from the Missionary Schools at Sierra Leone may be received on board Her Majesty's steamers of the African squadron for the purpose of being taught the management of marine steam-engines.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a letter addressed to the Queen on the 2nd of June last by the King of Dahomey, which he sent to Cape Coast Castle by the Rev. Thomas Freeman, a Wesleyan missionary. I inclose also a copy of the answer which I have returned to that letter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 23.

The King of Dahomey to Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

To Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria,

Abomey, June 2, 1854.

HIS Majesty the King of Dahomey has much pleasure in addressing the following communication to Her Majesty.

Many years ago a very strong friendship existed betwixt the King of Dahomey and the Sovereign of England, and of the three Powers having forts at Whydah,—English, French, and Portuguese, the King of Dahomey made choice of England and its Sovereign as his close friend.

At that time the Sovereign of England requested the King of Dahomey to send to the British Court one of his own people as his representative, and the King of Dahomey consequently sent Hassu-Ammamuso, his eldest son, to represent him at the English Court; and the Sovereign of England also sent a Representative to Dahomey.

Hassu-Ammamuso was absent from Dahomey nineteen months; on his return he was accompanied by the British Representative. The union of feeling between the two countries and Courts was so close and strong, that had there been no sea the King of Dahomey would have travelled to England, to have a dwelling-house close to that of his friend the English Sovereign, who was his sole European friend, living with him in close amity and affection; and the present feelings of the King of Dahomey are the same as those which have been expressed as existing betwixt the two Powers in former days, and he is anxious that Her Majesty the Queen of England should heartily reciprocate that same feeling.

As a proof of the very close friendship then existing betwixt England and Dahomey, all matters of trade affecting the interest of Dahomey were subjected to the consideration of the English Sovereign, and by his views and wishes the King of Dahomey was guided in all such questions.


The son of the first Governor was sent to England at the express wish of the King of Dahomey, with a hope that he would return as a native of this country, and be useful to both Sovereigns; but, unfortunately, he became unsteady, and disappointed all expectations respecting him.

The King is aware that the main cause of the non-existence for some time past of that close friendship which he desires to have with England has been the continuation of the Slave Trade in his dominions for a considerable time after the Queen of England commenced making great efforts for its suppression, and he is willing and desirous to meet the wishes of the Queen of England in its entire suppression throughout his country as early as it can be accomplished consistently with the circumstance that Dahomey has been for many years past almost entirely dependent upon the Slave Trade for its support and prosperity, and the King is, therefore, anxiously waiting for an answer to his communication to the Queen of England on that subject by her officer, Captain Forbes, now five years back; a delay which the King very much regrets, as he is particularly anxious that the former good intelligence existing betwixt England and Dahomey should be immediately restored, and therefore hopes that Her Majesty the Queen of England will not delay to meet this, his most sincere and earnest wish.

Fifteen years ago a British cruizer came into Whydah Roads, fired into the town, and killed eight natives without the King of Dahomey being aware that any provocation had been given by any of his people to the Queen, or to the officer of that ship; and being anxious that Her Majesty would kindly oblige him by directing some inquiry into the case. And he also begs that the Queen will send him for his constant use in Dahomey, the English flags—the ensign and the union jack. To open up a closer communication betwixt England and Dahomey, the King begs that Her Majesty will, if it be practicable, give instructions for the monthly mail steam-packets to call at Whydah.

The King of Dahomey also begs to inform Her Majesty that he appoints Mr. Freeman to mention several matters which are in his mind verbally to his Excellency Governor Hill, that he, the Governor, may on his arrival in England, mention them to her.

Wishing Her Majesty health and happiness, and hoping soon to receive a kind communication from her, he subscribes himself, with feelings of the warmest amity and friendship.

(Signed) GUZZU ^{his} , *King of Dahomey.*
mark.

Witnessed :
(Signed) THOMAS BIRCH FREEMAN,
HENRY WHARTON,
Wesleyan Missionaries.

Inclosure 2 in No. 23.

The Earl of Clarendon to the King of Dahomey.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 18, 1854.

I HAVE received the Queen's commands to acknowledge the receipt of the letter dated the 2nd of June last, which you sent to Her Majesty by the Rev. Thomas Freeman through the Governor of the Gold Coast, and in which you express your desire for the renewal of the relations formerly existing between the kingdoms of Great Britain and of Dahomey.

Although it is an unpleasant task for me to refer to the causes which have led Her Majesty's Government to abandon the hope of establishing a good understanding with your Majesty, yet as it appears by your letter that you are anxious to receive a communication from Her Majesty's Government, I feel bound to express myself frankly upon this subject, and to remind you of the failure of the repeated efforts made by Her Majesty's Government during the last ten years for the purpose of prevailing upon your Majesty to prevent your subjects from selling their countrymen to European foreigners, who convey them to distant lands where they languish in toil and misery instead of being employed at home in augmenting the wealth and resources of their own country.

I regret very much to be obliged to add that during the last twelve months the Dahomian port of Whydah has been disgraced by a great increase of this criminal practice, and that it is manifest that your subjects have wilfully disregarded the solemn engagement which you concluded with Captain Forbes on the 13th of January, 1852, whereby you pledged yourself to the Queen of England that the export of slaves to foreign countries should be abolished for ever in your dominions.

The Queen of England desires to maintain friendly relations with your Majesty, and is convinced that they will greatly contribute to the advantage of Dahomey; but as Her Majesty scrupulously maintains every engagement she enters into, she expects the same good faith from other Powers, and Her Majesty hopes that by the fulfilment of your promises she will be enabled to place her relations with you upon the footing on which she desires to see them established.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 24.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE just returned from Epé, the residence of Kosoko and his Chiefs, to which place I found it necessary to proceed in company with Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," the Senior Officer of the Bights Division, and Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx," Lieutenant Commander Ryves, in order to put an end to the state of anxiety and uneasiness felt by the King, Chiefs, and people of Lagos, in consequence of the late frequent reports that Kosoko and his party intended by a great demonstration of their force, and by cutting off the sources of trade and supply of provisions, to compel the King, Chiefs, and people of Lagos to allow them to return to their homes.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship the engagement voluntarily entered into by Kosoko and his numerous Chiefs with myself and Commander Miller. I feel great confidence in this engagement being faithfully observed, and that it will eventually lead, if no mischievous influence is set at work, to a state of peace between the people of Lagos and those of Epé, and to a great increase of the valuable legitimate trade of Lagos and the other ports.

I hope my proceedings in this instance will meet with your Lordship's favourable consideration and approbation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 24.

Agreement.

Agreement entered into this 28th day of September, 1854, between Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, and Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, and Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," Senior Officer in the Bights of Benin and Biafra.

1. KOSOKO, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, solemnly pledge themselves to make no attempt to regain possession of Lagos, either by threats, hostilities, or stratagem.

2. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, claim Palma as their port of trade, and Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Thomas Miller, Esquire, Commander and Senior Naval Officer in the Bights, engage to recognise Palma as the port of Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, for all purposes of legitimate trade.

3. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, do most solemnly pledge themselves to abandon the Slave Trade, that is, the export of slaves from Africa; also not to allow any slave-trader to reside at their port, or at any other place within their jurisdiction and influence.

4. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, solemnly bind themselves to give every protection and assistance to such merchants and traders as may wish to reside among them for the purpose of carrying on legitimate trade; also to assist Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to re-open the markets on the Jaboo shore, viz., Agienee, Ecorodo, and Abayee, and in maintaining order and security at those markets.

5. There shall be levied at the port of Palma an export duty of one head of cowries for every puncheon of palm oil, of the average size of one hundred and twenty gallons, and two strings of cowries per lb. on all ivory exported from the above port, for the benefit of Kosoko.

6. Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, engages on

behalf of Her Majesty's Government, that for the due and faithful performance of this Engagement on the part of Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, there shall be paid to Kosoko by Her Majesty's Government an annual allowance for his life of two thousand heads of cowries, or one thousand dollars, at his option.

7. This Engagement to have full force and effect from this day, and until annulled by Her Britannic Majesty's Government.

Signed up the Lagoon at Epé, this 28th day of September, 1854.

(Signed)	KOSOKO	his X mark.	WHYDOBAH	his X mark.
	Cabooceers and Chiefs :			
	OLOOSEMA	his X mark.	BAGALOO	his X mark.
	OLOTO	his X mark.	APSEE	his X mark.
	PELLEW	his X mark.	OLEESAU	his X mark.
	TAPA		ETTEE	his X mark.
	AGENIA	his X mark.	LOMOSA	his X mark.
	BOSOPO	his X mark.	OTCHEODEE	his X mark.
	AGAGOO	his X mark.		
	OBATCHI	his X mark.		

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bights of Benin.
THOS. MILLER,
*Commander of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," and Senior
Officer of the Bights of Benin and Biafra.*

In the presence of:
(Signed) HERBERT L. RYVES, *Lieut.-Commander of "Minx."*
W. P. BRAUND, *Master, Her Majesty's sloop "Crane."*
FRANCIS WM. DAVIS, *Assistant-Surgeon, "Minx."*
GEO. BATT. SCALA, *Merchant of Lagos.*
W. R. HANSEN, *Merchant of Lagos.*
JOSE PEDRO DA COUSTA ROY, *Merchant of Lagos.*
S. B. WILLIAMS, *Merchant of Lagos, and Interpreter.*

No. 25.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, November 24, 1854.

INFORMATION having reached me of the total loss of the "Fore-runner," with the mails on board, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a duplicate of my despatch dated October 1,* forwarded by that vessel, inclosing the original of an Engagement I had, in conjunction with Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," the senior officer of the Bights Division, entered into with Kosoko and the whole of his Cabooceers, of which I now forward your Lordship a copy.

On my first visit to Epé with Lieutenant-Commander Bedingsfeld, and at the interview I had brought about between the Cabooceers of Epé and those of Lagos, at a small island on the Lagoon, as detailed in my despatch of

* No. 24.

the 29th of January,* the Cabooceers of Epé pressed very hard that a limited number of their canoes might be allowed to trade with the merchants at Lagos, and I promised them that this reasonable request should have all my support; but, on mentioning this wish of the Epé Cabooceers to King Docemo and his Chiefs, they unanimously refused the permission, urging the most absurd reasons, based on their gross superstition. I nevertheless frequently urged the request of the Cabooceers on the King and Chiefs; and I pointed out to them, in case of their obstinately refusing a request so reasonable, that the result would be, that Kosoko, his Cabooceers and people, would have a shipping port of their own on the coast, where they would be able to trade direct with the merchants and supercargoes; that, from their position at Epé, and their great command of canoes, they would be able to engross the large trade of the Province of Jaboo, and by shipping their palm oil from the port on the coast, instead of from Lagos, King Docemo would suffer a considerable diminution of his revenue. All my arguments and remonstrances were in vain. Docemo and his Chiefs insisted that the Epé people should have no intercourse with Lagos. It was evident that I was opposed in this matter by some powerful influence.

Notwithstanding this very inimical conduct on the part of King Docemo and his Chiefs, Kosoko and his Cabooceers rigidly adhered to their verbal promise to me, not to disturb the canoes trading on the Lagoon; and some months passed away without any molestation of the free navigation of the surrounding waters being heard of. During this time Kosoko and his Cabooceers occasionally sent a small canoe to the Consulate, to ascertain whether the permission to trade with Lagos had been accorded. Although on these visits the people of Epé invariably came unarmed, their presence at Lagos gave great offence to the King and his party; and, on one occasion, during an hour's absence from the Consulate, I learnt on my return, that upwards of 100 armed men from the King's quarter, followers of his Captain Achambong, had been to the Consulate, singing insulting songs, and using threats to the few Epé people who were quartered under the verandah of the house; in their songs and threats I was informed I was not spared.

Upon this manifestation of ill-feeling, I dispatched the Epé messengers back to their homes, accompanying them myself in my boat about five miles beyond Lagos; and I wrote to Kosoko and his Cabooceers, under the then state of things, not to send their messengers again to Lagos.

At length rumours became rife, that Kosoko and his Cabooceers feeling their isolation, being shut out from all commercial intercourse with Lagos, and their situation having become irksome and insupportable, were arming largely to make a desperate move somewhere. It was stated, and it has since turned out to be correct, that one of their projects was to proceed on to Adu, and from that town to assist the expelled Badagry Chiefs to regain possession of their town, which, if accomplished, would have given Kosoko, his Cabooceers and people, a right to domicile at Badagry. It was further stated, that for some time past Kosoko had been forwarding his wives, children, and valuables to Adu. In consequence of the great uneasiness caused by the rumours of these movements, I was urgently requested by the merchants and traders to apply to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's sloop "Crane," the senior officer of the Bights Division, to allow Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Minx" to enter the river; and, on my showing Commander Miller the importance and urgency of such a step, the "Minx" crossed the bar, and anchored off the Consulate.

It was then arranged between Commander Miller and myself, that we should proceed in the "Minx" to the small island on the Lagoon, and invite Kosoko's Cabooceers to a conference. On our arrival at the island we dispatched a messenger to Tappa and the Cabooceers, inviting them to meet us. In answer to our invitation, we received an urgent application from Tappa to proceed on to Epé, for the purpose, as he stated, of having a personal conference with Kosoko, who would be sure to pay more attention to our representations, conveyed personally, than through any of his Cabooceers.

We accordingly proceeded on, and anchored off the town, when Kosoko sent his messenger to pay his compliments, &c.; and we in return sent messengers to pay our respects to him and his Cabooceers, and to inform them that we should, after breakfast, land and inform them of the object of our visit.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 57.

We were received, on landing, by Tappa and all the leading Cabooceers, and a crowd of people, who manifested a most friendly disposition. After remaining a short time at Tappa's house, Kosoko sent word that he was prepared to receive us. I then, with Commander Miller, and some of the officers of the "Minx," and accompanied by Tappa, went to Kosoko's residence, where we met him, with his Cabooceers. Our reception was a very friendly one; and I soon entered into the object of our visit, which I informed him was to put a stop to the uneasiness created by the rumours of his intended attack on Lagos. To effect this, I had to propose to him to enter into a solemn engagement, not to seek to regain possession of that place, either forcibly or covertly, and that, in return for such an Engagement, the port at which he should wish to carry on his trade should be recognised, and that he should receive from Her Majesty's Government a moderate annual allowance for the total abandonment of the Slave Trade by himself and his Cabooceers, &c., and that I would be prepared on the following morning to submit the Engagement for his consideration and signature and that of his Cabooceers. He promised that my proposal should that evening be submitted to all his Chiefs, principal and subordinate; he then invited us to remain and partake of his hospitality, which we did; and a very well-cooked repast was laid on the table, good wines alone being wanting, Kosoko himself doing the part of host very creditably. This over, we returned on board, leaving my interpreter and other persons on shore to discuss the terms of the engagement with Tappa and the other influential Cabooceers, and to point out the advantages to be derived by them through it.

On the morrow, we again landed with the proposed engagement fairly written. It was submitted to Kosoko and a very full number of his Chiefs, every Article being first interpreted into the Portuguese language, which many of them speak fluently, and afterwards into the country language. After a patient and well-conducted discussion on the different Articles of the Engagement, in which considerable acuteness and intelligence was displayed, Kosoko rose up to put his mark to the paper, expressing his hope that he would be allowed to die at Lagos, and not in exile. After placing his mark, he called on all the Cabooceers to subscribe to the Engagement, which they all did.

The question of a limited number of their canoes being allowed to trade with Lagos was again raised, and I promised that now all fears of an attempt of a forcible recovery of Lagos being removed, I would, on my return thither, insist on King Docemo and his Chiefs consenting to their canoes trading freely with the merchants at Lagos.

On the nature of the engagement concluded with Kosoko becoming well understood by Docemo and his Chiefs, they have, at last, not only freely consented to the Epé canoes visiting Lagos, but they have, at my suggestion, fenced in a large space of ground for a market for the Epé people; the people of Lagos expecting, in return, that they will have free liberty to trade with the markets at and about Epé. This will follow as a matter of course, and I hope shortly to have the satisfaction of seeing people who, a few months since, could not meet without a strong desire to destroy each other, meeting in friendly commercial intercourse.

This market-place will also serve alternately for the Porto Novo and Badagry traders.

And now, having succeeded in opening a free intercourse along the Lagoon from Epé to Porto Novo, a distance of 120 miles, I hope very shortly to see removed, through the influence of legitimate commerce, all those animosities and enmities which have so long existed between the peoples of Lagos, Epé, Badagry, and Porto Novo.

No. 26.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction to report to your Lordship that no information of any shipment of slaves from the Bight of Benin has reached me since that made on board the late French brig "*Cæsar*," reported in my despatch of the 12th August of this year.

The shipment of slaves by this vessel has been the cause of much vexation to Captain Du Creste Villeneuve, commanding the French naval division in the Bights, as your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed postscript to a letter I received from Captain Villeneuve.

It appears to have been, on the part of the Whydah slave-dealers, a most reckless adventure, as the officers of Her Majesty's sloop "*Arab*," who had been called upon to survey the "*Cæsar*," declared her to be in most unseaworthy and dangerous state.

The number of slaves shipped on board the "*Cæsar*" has been variously stated. It appears, by accounts most worthy of credit, that she carried away about 420 slaves.

I am informed that the slave-dealers at and about Whydah have taken the alarm at the news of the seizure of two of their cargoes of slaves by the authorities in Cuba, and at the probable loss of that by the "*Cæsar*;" they are now resuming the palm-oil trade, and those who can are removing to Ahgwey and other ports, to get clear of the exorbitant exactions of the King of Dahomey and those of his Chiefs ruling at Whydah, which nothing but a successful Slave Trade can support.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Captain Villeneuve to Consul Campbell.

Mon cher Consul,

Samedi soir.

JE reçois à l'instant une lettre du Commandant du "*Crane*," qui m'apprend le départ du brick le "*César*" avec des esclaves.

C'est une affaire que je déplore, et que je n'ai pu empêcher. En deux mots, voici ce qui s'est passé. Le "*César*" a été jugé innavigable, d'abord par une commission du brick "*l'Arabe*," et plus tard par une contre-visite d'une commission de mon bord. Le navire, qui était assuré, devenait à ce moment la propriété des assureurs; et en l'absence de ceux-ci le capitaine du brick devenait chargé de leurs intérêts. Je voulais conduire le "*César*" au Gabon pour le vendre, et le faire servir dans le fleuve. Mais il fallait le faire naviguer sous la responsabilité de quelqu'un; et personne n'a voulu accepter cette charge. On ne pouvait le laisser pourrir devant Whydah, car les assureurs auraient fait poursuivre; et puisqu'on trouvait à le vendre, le capitaine du "*César*" a cru de son devoir, pour l'intérêt des assureurs, de vendre le navire. La vente s'est fait pendant mon absence de la côte, sans cela j'aurais pu agir pour qu'il ne fût pas vendu aux Portugais de Whydah. Le commandant du "*Crane*" m'écrit qu'il est parti avec 700 esclaves; je connais le brick, et s'il en a pris 300, il en aura mis dans ses hunes. Ce n'est que hier à la nuit, quand j'appareillais de Whydah, que j'ai appris imparfaitement la chose, par l'officier que j'avais envoyé à bord du "*Dolphin*." Si je n'avais par été aussi pressé, j'aurais éclairci cette affaire, qui d'ailleurs n'est pas perdue pour attendre.

Tout à vous,
(Signé)

DE VILLENEUVE.

No. 27.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 1, 1854.

WITH reference to the large capture of Egbas made by Kosoko's war-people, in sight of the King's house at Lagos, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 20th December of last year,* and to the steps I had taken in obedience to your Lordship's instructions to obtain the restoration of the Egbas remaining in the hands of Kosoko's people; I have now the honour to report, that on my late visit to Epé, I learnt from one of the war-captains, named Abadge, himself an Egba man, and a leading Captain of the expedition which effected the capture of the Egbas, that nearly the whole of them had been redeemed by their relatives; that the few remaining unredeemed were kept in the households of the Cabooceers, waiting the arrival of their friends to redeem them. On my telling Abadge that I had been informed that some of the Egbas had been sold in the Benin, he assured me such was not the case, for that slaves brought a very low price in Benin, and that, by keeping the captured Egbas, their friends redeemed them at a price considerably above the mere value of a slave. He further informed me that the capture of these people was a "matter of money," undertaken by the Captains of the Cabooceers, who, from being deprived of all trade, were become in want of the means of living.

I ought here to mention a circumstance to your Lordship of which I was credibly informed. On the arrival of the Egba prisoners, Senhor Lima, thinking he recognised some among them who had been present at the attack on the slave factories at Jaboo, some months previous, was very anxious to purchase them; the eagerness he evinced raised a suspicion in the mind of Agineah's captain, who had captured them, that it was Lima's intention to torture and kill them; he therefore refused to sell them to Lima at any price. Lima sought the interference of Kosoko, but he, being made acquainted with the reason of the Captain's refusal to sell them to Lima, supported the Captain in his refusal.

This Senhor Lima, who possessed so much evil influence over the mind of Kosoko, and who had acted as his Chef d'Artillerie, died at Epé, of dysentery, about six months since. Kosoko buried him with a great display of native military honours; the cannon in the town were fired during the whole day, and other ceremonies gone through, suitable, as he supposed, to a white man of rank and importance.

To his death, and the removal of his evil influence, I attribute, in a great measure, Kosoko's present pacific disposition, and the little reluctance he evinced to sign an engagement whereby he has bound himself to abandon all Slave Trade for the future.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 28.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 2, 1854.

WHEN Kosoko and his Cabooceers had signed the Engagement, they expressed a wish to be furnished with an English flag to hoist at Palma, their port of trade; and that one of Her Majesty's vessels should proceed there, and by firing a salute proclaim the opening of the port.

Commander Miller, in his report to Commodore Adams of his proceedings, mentioned this wish to the Commodore.

Commander Miller's proceedings at Epé, in conjunction with me, having met the entire approval of Commodore Adams, I was invited by the Commodore, on the occasion of my paying my official visit to him on board the "Scourge,"

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 55.

to accompany him to Palma, in order to carry out the wishes of Kosoko and his Cabooceers. I accordingly embarked on board Her Majesty's ship "Scourge," and on the 27th ultimo proceeded with Commodore Adams to Palma; Commander Miller in Her Majesty's ship "Crane" preceding us some hours.

On the afternoon of the 28th ultimo Kosoko and the whole of his Cabooceers arrived at Palma from Epé. The following morning boats were sent outside the surf to bring the Cabooceers on board the "Scourge," the Commodore having invited them. Unfortunately the surf was that day very bad, and only Tappa and a few of the Captains would venture through it.

On their arrival on board the "Scourge," they met with a most kind reception from Commodore Adams, and were received with all due honours. The huge 10-inch gun and the large shot belonging to it struck them with astonishment. The Commodore ordered the gun to be fired at full charge and a high elevation, and the distance to which they threw so large a ball greatly surprised the party: some shells were also fired off. The marines were put through their exercise, and the seamen through the cutlass exercise. This last was looked upon with great interest, it being quite novel to the visitors. The Commodore then went round the ship with the intelligent Tappa, explaining through an interpreter the various departments. The engine-room, its cleanliness, extent, and the (to them) wonderful mechanism of the engine, created a profound astonishment; and I feel certain that Tappa then felt more than ever the inutility of attempting to resist British power.

On the departure of Tappa and his party the salute was fired. It was returned by volleys of musketry from the shore, where the English ensign which had been forwarded to Kosoko was flying.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 29.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 5, 1854.

ON my late visit to Porto Novo, and in conversation with the King relative to Slave Trade matters, he suggested that the Chiefs of Adu and Okeadon, two important towns on the road from the interior, the former leading to Badagry, the latter to Whydah and Porto Novo, should be invited to conclude Treaties the same as the seaboard Chiefs; stating that by opposing the passage of slaves destined for the coast through their towns, they would effect much good.

The King of Agido, a rather large town some ten miles east of Badagry, expressed his willingness to conclude an Anti-Slave Trade Treaty: he assumed the sovereignty of this town about nine months since. It was during an interregnum that Mayoo built the large barracoon for Domingo Martins, the walls of which are still standing.

Should your Lordship approve of Treaties being concluded with these Chiefs, it will be requisite, I believe, for me to be empowered by your Lordship to do so; in that case I have to pray your Lordship to direct that some blank Treaties on parchment be forwarded to this Consulate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 30.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 5, 1854.

SENHOR MARCO BORGES FERRAS, formerly extensively engaged in Slave Trade at this place, and who with other slave-dealers was expelled from Lagos on the present King Docemo coming into power, has lately landed here on the plea of recovering a large quantity of palm oil due to him by various traders in this place.

He had previously addressed me several times from Accra, praying me to grant him leave to return to Lagos to recover payment of debts due to him.

I replied to him, that he had been expelled from Lagos by the King, who was bound by his Treaty with Her Majesty's Government to expel all slave-traders from his territories, and that the permission to return to Lagos did not rest with me.

Senhor Marco (as he is most commonly called) landed here from Accra per last mail-steamer "*Bacchante*." Knowing that he really has a considerable quantity of palm oil due to him, I have requested the King to allow Senhor Marco to remain three months at Lagos to obtain payment of the debts due to him.

Another of the slave-traders, a Senhor Jambo, has also been here in the character of supercargo for a month past. He landed a quantity of Brazil tobacco from a brig whose name I have not been able to learn, and sent the brig back to Whydah, I believe for a further supply, while he remained on shore. The brig returned this morning to Lagos Roads.

I shall not fail, my Lord, to keep a watchful eye on the movements of these people.

No. 31.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 6, 1854.

I DO myself the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 21st September,* disapproving of the measures I had taken for the removal of Mayoo, the late Chief of Badagry.

Shortly after assuming my duties at this place I received a letter from Mayoo, informing me that the King of Porto Novo was preparing to reinstate the original Chiefs of Badagry, and praying my interference. I wrote to the King of Porto Novo, requesting him not to take any hostile steps against Mayoo, and that I would, on the return of the dry season, proceed to Badagry and Porto Novo, and endeavour to arrange their differences amicably,

In the mean time reports reached me of the open and constant violation by Mayoo of his Slave Treaty engagements, and I sought, through the correspondence on Slave Trade, and from other sources, to make myself acquainted with the recent history of Badagry, and of the causes which brought about the rebellion by Mayoo, the late King Akitoye's people, and the Sierra Leone emigrants, all mere sojourners at Badagry, which ended in the expulsion of the legitimate Chiefs and the substitution of Mayoo.

No event that has occurred in this distracted and unsettled country, not even Kosoko's forcible expulsion from Lagos, has created the discontent and dissatisfaction which the expulsion of the Badagry Chiefs did; the agency by which it was brought about, and the base ingratitude of the principal actors in the affair, excited indignation throughout the country, except with the parties benefitting by it—the Egbas, Mayoo's followers, and the Sierra Leone emigrants, who all supplied Domingo Martins with slaves. It was also regarded by the whole of the Popoes, of whom the King of Dahomey is the head, by the Jaboos, and by Kosoko's strong party, as the first step towards making the Egbas the masters of the whole seaboard from Porto Novo to Lagos.

In my conversation with the King of Porto, and with all other Chiefs, I have not failed to assure them that Her Majesty's Government have no intention of assisting the Egbas to make themselves masters of countries not belonging to them, that all the tribes enjoy its sympathy and goodwill, and that those Chiefs who rigidly carry out their Treaty obligations to suppress the Slave Trade, and promote legitimate commerce, will enjoy its friendship.

Deeply as I regret to have incurred your Lordship's censure by my interference in the restoration of the rightful Badagry Chiefs, it is some satisfaction to me to be able to report to your Lordship that their restoration, and the engagement entered into with Kosoko, have been the means of dissolving a most

* No. 13.

formidable combination which had been formed by the Kings of Dahomey and Porto Novo and the whole of the Popoes, the Kings of the Provinces of Jaboo and Ibaddan, together with Kosoko and his strong party, to surround Abbeokuta during the ensuing dry season, and make a grand effort to destroy the town.

This powerful combination is now dissolved, and the King of Dahomey has sent his messengers (in company with those of the Egbas, who had been several months at Dahomey) to declare his willingness to be at peace.

There are many circumstances in connection with the Badagry insurrection, and which followed it, upon which the Chiefs of the Popoe and other countries founded their apprehensions that the Egbas would, with English assistance, make themselves masters of their countries, of which I think it will be desirable Her Majesty's Government should be informed. At my earliest leisure I will draw up a report of the same, with a short history of the town, for your Lordship's information.

If I had studied my personal ease and convenience, I should have disregarded Mayoo's application to interfere with the King of Porto Novo. The consequences would have been a fierce struggle between the Popoes, with the King of Dahomey and Kosoko's forces on one side, for the reinstatement of Wawu and the other Chiefs, their countrymen, and the Egbas and Mayoo's weak force on the other side, to retain him at Badagry; a struggle that would have thrown everything into confusion, interrupted the peaceful pursuit of legitimate commerce, and, instead of the present peaceful state of things, with the Lagoon from Godomey near to Whydah to beyond Epé (a distance of 150 miles) bearing on its waters canoes laden with palm oil and other productions, these same canoes would have been filled with armed men, kidnapping and fighting, feeding the Slave Trade, and rendering the situation of Lagos critical and insecure.

I hope this explanation, together with the circumstance that the maintenance of peace in these parts is considered to be my duty, will, my Lord, partially remove the unfavourable view taken by your Lordship of my conduct with regard to Badagry.

No. 32.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 7, 1854.

ON looking over the printed correspondence, Class B, received at this Consulate by the last mail, I perceive that Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, in transmitting his periodical returns of vessels trading between that port and the coast of Africa, notices the very large shipments made to the coast of tobacco and rum by those vessels; and he very justly suspects that a large portion of this tobacco and rum must be intended for the purchase of slaves for exportation to Cuba.

From inquiries made I learn that at least 80 per cent. of the tobacco and rum shipped from Bahia is consigned to, or purchased by, Domingo Martinez; and that he has in store, at this moment, some 8,000 rolls of the former. I also learn that this roll-tobacco is almost the only article bartered for slaves.

Domingo Martinez, about this time last year, sent circulars to the Bristol and Liverpool houses engaged in the palm-oil trade on the coast, that he would furnish them with cargoes of palm oil at the rate of four gallons and a half for a Spanish dollar. This offer holding out, with the then and present prices of palm oil, the prospect of large profit, several vessels were sent to him, particularly from Bristol, with specie.

The first vessels that arrived were loaded in due course; but as the natives who manufacture palm oil do not require specie, and but a very small quantity of tobacco in payment for it, the supply of palm oil fell off, notwithstanding that Domingo Martinez, in consequence of the Badagry trade being closed, possessed the entire monopoly of the trade, of which he made a most tyrannical use, thus discouraging the natives to manufacture it.

The captains and supercargoes of these vessels appear to have delivered their specie, and a quantity of expensive plate ordered by Domingo, without stipulating the time within which he should undertake to load the vessels, or, in fact, making any written agreement with him whatever. As a consequence, I am informed, seven or eight vessels, representing nearly 3,000 tons, are now, some only partially loaded, and others have received no portion of their cargoes whatever; and further, Domingo Martinez has told the captains, after keeping them waiting eight, nine, and ten months, that he will not furnish them with cargoes except at an increased price for the oil, namely, three gallons to the dollar.

Domingo Martinez has sent presents and messages to the King of Porto Novo, with a view to get the King to send the traders with their palm oil to sell to him; but the King has refused to exercise any arbitrary power in the matter, and the traders are keeping their oil to sell to the first vessel that arrives at Badagry to trade.

Roll tobacco being the article almost exclusively paid for slaves, affords a fair indication from whence comes the supply of slaves that are sold to Domingo Martinez and the other slave-dealers; of this article there has been but a poor supply at Lagos, until lately that Senhor Jambo has landed a quantity, the greater part of which has been bought by the woman Tinnaboo on credit, and it is strongly suspected is to be paid for in slaves forwarded to Whydah, by way of Abbeokuta and Okeadan; whereas the markets in Abbeokuta are, and have been for some time past, glutted with tobacco, thus confirming statements repeatedly made to me by all classes, that the Egbas are the greatest slave-dealers throughout Yoruba.

With regard to the Sardinian vessels mentioned in the returns furnished by Mr. Consul Morgan, as trading with the coast of Africa, I beg permission, my Lord, to furnish you with the following information. The "*Adige*," "*Fulmine*," "*Iride*," "*Giuseppina*;" these four are fast-sailing vessels, built for the Slave Trade, and after landing their cargoes of roll tobacco and rum on the coast, are ready, if a good opportunity offers, to take a freight of slaves across to Cuba or Brazils; being under heavy bond not to sell the vessels on the coast, the Sardinian captains must see their way clear, and free from risk, before they will engage to ship slaves; hence the reason of their hovering so long on the coast.

The "*Volatrice*," mentioned in Return page 246, has been wrecked on one of the Canary Islands.

The "*Adige*," "*Lemigna*," and "*Porto Mauricio*," have taken cargoes of palm oil to England. The Sardinian vessels now on the coast are the "*Iride*," "*Judita*," loading with oil at Palma; the "*Maria*," and the "*Destina*" daily expected. Two Sardinian vessels, the barque "*Bella Leandra*," and brig "*Luigina*," both left this about a month since for London, with full cargoes of palm oil. Of the other vessels mentioned in Consul Morgan's returns, the Austrian barque "*Melinka*," I have reason to believe, left Porto Novo for England laden with palm oil.

The Portuguese barque "*Linda Flor*" brought 230 self-emancipated Africans as passengers from Bahia. After landing them here, I requested the senior naval officer off Lagos not to allow the "*Linda Flor*" to leave the roadstead until her extra water-casks, passenger-deck, and extra cooking utensils were landed, and I know that my request was strictly attended to, and the vessel sailed without these equipments.

The French vessels trading regularly, apparently, between Bahia and this part of the coast, belong, I believe, to the French factory at Whydah, except the "*Leonine*," which brought a cargo of roll tobacco and rum for Mr. Sandeman, an English merchant of this place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 33.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 12, 1854.

ABOUT six weeks since, a youth about sixteen years of age brought me a letter from Mr. White, the Church Missionary schoolmaster residing at the old town of Lagos, stating that the youth had complained to him that his mother and grandmother had been cruelly put to death by one of the Chiefs of Lagos, named Olomobong, for political reasons founded on gross superstition.

Rumours of secret murders being committed at Lagos reaching me from time to time, I thought it necessary to take formal notice of this case, and I deputed some respectable Sierra Leone emigrants to accompany Mr. Williams, the interpreter attached to the Consulate, to the King's house, to request him to institute an inquiry into the matter. This was done; and I beg to forward, in original, the report of Mr. Williams, and of the Sierra Leone emigrants who accompanied him to be present at the inquiry.

From the statements of the youth and the two children, all very intelligent, it would appear that on the occasion of Her Majesty's steamer "Minx" passing that part of the town where the King's house is situated, a great crowd of persons were collected to see the vessel pass, the channel being close in shore; the mother and grandmother were among the crowd, and they were overheard to express a wish that the vessel might bring back their King, Kosoko; this being reported to Olomobong, he put them both in chains, and charged them with exercising witchcraft to kill him and his family. The youth was sent on an errand some distance off by Olomobong, to be out of the way, and the children state, that one evening soon after, the King's staff came to Olomobong's house for their mother and grandmother, who were taken away, and they never saw them after.

Learning from the children that they in reality did not belong to Olomobong, and that they had an aunt living at Epé who would be glad to receive them, I requested King Docemo to deliver to me the youth and the two children to forward to their aunt; as it was evident that Olomobong would, after what had passed, either kill the children secretly, or sell them. In a few days the youth and children were sent to the Consulate, and I had an opportunity soon after of forwarding them to their aunt.

There has been a good deal of talk among the King's Chiefs on this matter, and Olomobong and the others are indignant at what they call my interference in their private matters; that having bought their slaves with their own money, they have a right to do what they please with them; and that they cannot suffer a foreigner to interfere and put down their customs and those of their ancestors; and much more such like talk.

Considering that the lives of these two women were sacrificed to appease the superstitious belief of Olomobong in witchcraft, and that the putting them to death was a breach of Article VII of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoye with Rear-Admiral Bruce on behalf of Her Majesty, on the 1st January, 1852 I thought it strictly my duty to interfere, as I have above reported to your Lordship; and I trust my doing so will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 33.

Mr. Williams, and others, to Consul Campbell.

Dear Sir,

Ologbowo, Lagos, November 13, 1854.

ACCORDING to your request, on the 13th of November instant, we, the undersigned, have called upon His Majesty King Docemo, and requested him to send for Olumagbon, and when he came we delivered our message to the King in the presence of the said Olumagbon; that two women by the name of

Lasike and Abeji (this Lasike is the mother of Abeji, and the said Abeji is the mother of three children by the name of Fiabi, Bioku, and Toguwa); and that these three children brought complaints to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul of Lagos that the said Olumagbon has murdered the above-named Lasike and Abeji on the 23rd of September last; and the day previous to their murder he sent the eldest of the children to a village called Ibese, and at his returning from Ibese, the said Olumagbon told him that his mother has taken a poison from Epé on purpose of poisoning the people.

The King then called Olumagbon in question, who states as follows: that just as the deceased had served him he also served them in return, and that he buy them with his own money.

We then asked him if he mean to say that he killed them? He replied that many of his relation died, and some of his children, both sexes, and that himself was reduced to poverty through them; for this reason he put them in prison, and that they die in prison.

We therefore inquire what kills them? and how many days were they in imprisonment? He replied, I cannot tell.

We ask him how many days one die before the other? He said all died the same day, and buried them the same day in his house. But why do you ask me such questions? I pay my money for them.

We then turn our question to the King, and said, if anybody buy a slave, did he allow to kill that slave? The King replied, no.

Previous to our going to the King, the children told us that this Olumagbon gave charge to all his wives that whoever mention anything about the death of these two women, he will either kill or sell such an one. From his own statements we concluded that he murdered them with his own hand.

(Signed)

S. B. WILLIAMS.
JAMES GOODING.
J. WOLLIDGE.
J. R. THOMAS.
J. M. TURNER.
J. C. DAVID.

No. 34.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 19, 1854.

I BEG to transmit for your Lordship's information copy of a letter I addressed by this packet to Mr. Consul Morgan at Bahia, with the copy of the translation of a letter to Mr. Morgan.

Not being able to get perfect translations at this place of any letter or document in the Portuguese or Spanish languages, I thought it best to forward the original letter itself.

I hope I have not been guilty of any irregularity in thus corresponding direct with Mr. Consul Morgan, my object being to save delay; and that your Lordship will, under the circumstances, approve of my having done so.

The transactions of the Slave Trade merchants at Bahia being almost exclusively with Domingo Martins and the other slave-dealers at Whydah, Aghwey, &c., I beg respectfully to suggest to your Lordship that it would tend to thwart the operations of slave-dealers, if Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia be instructed to communicate the equipment of vessels, or any Slave Trade movements at that port, through Her Majesty's Consul at Teneriffe, either to the Senior Officer of the Bights Division, or to this Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 34.

Consul Campbell to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Lagos, December 14, 1854.

I BEG to transmit you a letter I have received from a young Portuguese or Brazilian, who has been living in a subordinate capacity with some slave-traders at Whydah.

I have reason to place some confidence in the statements contained in this letter, as some information I received from the same party about a year since, proved to be correct.

The writer of this letter lived there formerly, and when the whole body of slave-traders were expelled, there was a desire to retain him on account of the information he was able and willing to give of the manœuvres of the slave-traders; they, however, carried him away forcibly with them.

I have reason to suspect that the American barque alluded to in the letter is the "*Carrier Pidgeon*" of New York, belonging to a Mr. J. A. Machado, of that city, a Portuguese by birth, but now a naturalised citizen of the United States, and formerly extensively engaged in Slave Trade; the *locale* of his operations being between the Portuguese settlements on the south coast, Mozambique on the eastern coast, and Rio Janeiro.

The "*Carrier Pidgeon*" arrived about this time last year at Whydah (Ajudá), laden solely with lumber; she was vigilantly watched by our cruizers, and left the coast, 'tis said, after a stay of several months with sufficient palm oil to ballast her. After her departure the slave-traders boasted that the "*Carrier Pidgeon*" had been sent merely as a decoy, to attract the attention of the cruizers. while smaller vessels made their escape with their cargoes of slaves.

I have reason to believe that most of the slavers that escaped from the Bight of Benin some months since were protected by the American flag; as, however, they throw off this protection after having embarked the slaves, it is only on your side of the ocean that vessels so protected on this side can be captured.

There is a Portuguese brig laying in this roadstead of a suspicious character: she is called the "*Liberal*;" her captain's name B. J. Nogueira; she is apparently Oporto built; is heavily masted and sparred, the masts raking slightly; she has on board about 120 puncheons of palm oil, and 'tis said is bound to Bahia; the parties interested in her on this side are old slave-dealers.

I forward this through Her Majesty's Consul at Teneriffe to save delay, and I hope that Her Majesty's Secretary of State will approve of my having done so.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

 Inclosure 2 in No. 34.

* * * to Consul Campbell.

(Translation.)

Respected Sir,

Lagos, December 6, 1854.

HAVING been looked upon at Whydah as a spy giving information respecting the Traffic in Slaves, in consequence of a letter I wrote to Mr. Hansen informing him of a schooner that was expected from Bahia, and was coming out by order of Domingo José Martins, I was obliged to leave that place at the peril of my life. This gentleman has a large number of slaves on hand (which report says is more than 2,000); he has therefore sent lately an order for a larger vessel, which I believe is to be an American barque, chartered by Joaquim Pera. Marinho e Co., merchants of Bahia; she will first go to Porto Novo to discharge a part of her cargo, and then go on to Whydah to discharge the rest (rum and tobacco) to Senhor José Maria Cora. Brandão, and prepare to receive her other cargo. Mr. D. José Martins will not ship slaves at Porto Novo, in consequence of mercantile connection he has with some English houses. In the

Yervogar's house at Whydah is an immense number of slaves belonging to that gentleman ready for shipment.

At Porto Novo town is an Ebbar man called José do Paraizo, that was a babar* to Mr. Martins; this man is employed by Mr. Corlas José de Souza Nobre and other traders at Whydah to buy slaves for them, under pretence of buying them for hammock men.

I have, &c.
(Signed) * * *

P.S.—The destined point at Bahia is some new place outside the harbour that belongs to a Mr. Thomas Pera. Geumuabo, but I do not know the particular name of the place; there was a place inside the bay, an island, called "Ilhos dos Frades" (Isles of the Friars).

No. 35.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 20, 1854.

THE investigation into the case of the sacrifice of the two women, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 12th instant, has been the means of bringing to my knowledge a most fearful sacrifice of human life which took place after the death of Akitoye, and on the occasion of the present King making what is called the "customs" at his father's funeral.

In my despatch of last year, dated October 1st,† I reported to your Lordship that I felt myself at liberty to say that no human sacrifices had been made after the death of the late King Akitoye. As regards the sacrifices heretofore made on the death of a King of Lagos of several of his wives and domestic slaves, I have since had no reason to doubt the truthfulness of my report.

It now appears, however, that a number of the prisoners captured on the flight of Kosoko and his Cabooceers, on the occasion when the Commander-in-chief sent a force of boats under Commander Phillips, of the "Polyphemus," and reexpelled Kosoko from Lagos, in all about 80, were, from the death of Akitoye to the conclusion of the customs, killed in various ways; some being allowed to die the lingering death of starvation, others being beat to death with clubs, others, more mercifully, shot dead, or killed by decapitation, and a few drowned.

My information of these fearful proceedings proceeds from a young man who was himself a prisoner, and one of the intended victims, and an eye-witness of the dreadful massacres. Having been taught to read and write the Portuguese language, he sent me a detail of these shocking deeds in writing. He, himself, appears to have been saved towards the conclusion of the frightful tragedy, through the earnest intercession of his mother, who had also been taken prisoner by one of Akitoye's captains, and retained by him as a wife. The young man has since been taken on King Docemo's establishment, as one of his attendants.

It appears, from his statement, which I hesitate to give in its atrocious details, that Akitoye was averse to shedding blood, and opposed to the killing of the prisoners; but no sooner was he dead, than the woman Tinnaboo, with her husband Badda, who it appears is head executioner to the King, visited the prison from time to time; and after reproaching the goalers for giving too much water and provisions to the prisoners, would select one of these unfortunate people, and with their own hands dispatch him. Several were killed in detail in this manner, until the occasion of King Docemo making the "customs" at his father's funeral, when, it appears, the remainder, about 20, were dispatched in one night.

I now perfectly recollect, during the time these customs lasted, and when I exercised the greatest vigilance to ascertain whether any of the late King's wives or domestic slaves were being sacrificed (being quite ignorant by those persons who at that time professed to keep me informed of what was passing, of there

* Barber.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 38.

being any prisoners in the King's jail—having heard, and being led to believe, that all those persons captured from Kosoko's party had been sold at Badagry and Agido), that Mr. Marsh, one of the Sierra Leone people, awoke me one midnight, to tell me that his wife was in the greatest distress of mind, having heard from some acquaintance that a great slaughter of human beings was then taking place on the King's premises, and that early next morning I set on foot inquiries; but my attention being directed (in ignorance of the prisoners), solely to whether any sacrifices of the late King's wives and slaves had taken place, I learnt nothing of the fate of the unfortunate prisoners.

Among the names furnished to me of several of the prisoners put to a violent death, I recognize the name of one of the self-emancipated Africans from Brazil, named Rufino. On one of my visits to Epé, and in conversation with Tappa, he remarked that Kosoko had been charged with acts of cruelty and with sacrificing many lives; but that cruelties were now committed, and lives sacrificed in Lagos, to a great extent; and he wished me to satisfy myself of the fact, and particularly to make inquiries as to what had become of this same Rufino. I did so; and learnt from some of the Brazilian emigrants that he had been put to death by Docemo's people, they suspecting him of communicating with Kosoko; but the Brazilians entreated me to make no stir in the matter, for, if it came to the knowledge of the King or his people that they had communicated anything to me relative to their countryman's death, Rufino's fate would soon be theirs. In my informant's list, Rufino is stated to have been forcibly torn from his house, carried to the prison, stabbed to death by the executioners (of whom it appears there are four), and the body afterwards sunk, with weights attached, in the Lagoon.

I should inform your Lordship that the barbarous custom of sacrificing some of the wives and domestic slaves on the death of African kings, arises from the superstitious belief that after death in this world they instantly pass into life in another world, where they will require the services of those who had administered to their comfort and added to their importance in this world. This superstition is by no means confined to this part of Africa: it prevails also among the pagan natives in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone, but is not carried out there to the frightful extent it is in this great Slave Trade quarter of Africa; the Chiefs there being generally poor, and possessing but few wives and domestic slaves.

The slaughter of these unfortunate prisoners was therefore dictated by a fiendish spirit of revenge, which overcame all feelings of avarice; for there was not one of these prisoners but would have been redeemed at a heavy ransom had their lives been spared, as the following case related by my informant will show. A favourite Captain of Agineah's, captured during the flight, fell into the hands of one of Mayoo's people at Badagry: immediately it was known to Tinnaboo she despatched a well-known ferocious captain of hers, with a quantity of cowries, to buy the man at any price, and he was purchased by this fellow at double the usual slave price, who immediately took the prisoner to the fetish bush outside the town of Badagry, and put him to death in a manner too horrible to relate. Abadgee, another of Agineah's captains, who had the good fortune to make his escape from Lagos, on hearing that his friend and countryman was in the hands of the Badagry people, also sent a large sum in cowries to redeem him, and to pass him on to Abbeokuta. Abadgee's messenger on his arrival at Badagry found that the footsteps of revenge had outstripped those of friendship, and that the unfortunate man had suffered a most horrible death.

I have not yet brought my knowledge of these frightful deeds to the notice of King Docemo, as in the present feverish state of the town, arising from the return of some of the old slave-dealers, who have been welcomed by the King, the whole of the Chiefs, and Tinnaboo, and the hopes they now all entertain of a revival of the Slave Trade, it would be impolitic so to do, and might endanger the peace of the town. And further it will be necessary for me, before doing so, to secure the safety of my informant, Docemo having given out that he will put to death any Lagos people who inform the Consul of what passes in his town.

I have deemed it my duty to bring to your Lordship's notice this gross and painful violation of Article VII of the Treaty on the part of King Docemo and his Chiefs.

No. 36.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 21, 1854.

I HAVE to report to your Lordship that a decided attempt is being made to revive the Slave Trade at this place.

Senhor Marcos Borgas Ferras, commonly known as Senhor Marco, a Senhor Jambo, and a Senhor Joaquim Pereira Machado, all old slave-traders at this place, and expelled with several others when the present King Docemo came into power, have lately returned to Lagos, and been very favourably received by the King, his Chiefs, and the woman Tinnaboo.

Senhor Marco arrived from Accra by the steam mail-packet "Bacchante." Senhor Jambo, with an assistant, came in the Portuguese brig "Liberal," having a quantity of roll tobacco on board, and part of a cargo of palm oil. Senhor Joaquim Pereira Machado, with his assistant, Leonardo Pereira Morals, a clerk to Domingo Martins, arrived in the Sardinian brig "Destino," having a small quantity of rum and a large quantity of roll tobacco on board, ostensibly to purchase palm oil, but really to purchase slaves, as the "Destino" is unprovided with empty casks for palm oil, and such things are not to be purchased here at any price.

I did not hesitate to warn Docemo against allowing these people to re-establish themselves in Lagos. At first he gave me fair promises that they should not have the permission so to do.

After the arrival of the "Destino," Senhors Machado and Morals called at the Consulate, with a view, I thought, of sounding me as to whether they would be permitted to remain here. On my asking them the nature of the cargo they had brought for sale, they informed me 2,000 rolls of tobacco and a few casks of rum. I told them that Senhor Jambo had already glutted Lagos with tobacco; that he, Senhor Machado, would not be able to dispose of his tobacco to the merchants for palm oil, as it was not in request by them, and that if he sold it to the natives, they could offer him no other payment but slaves. Senhor Machado, with his assistant, then took his leave.

The next morning I received a message from King Docemo, ironically thanking me for having told Senhors Machado and Morals that they would not be allowed to remain in Lagos. Upon this I requested (the Consulate interpreter, Mr. Williams, being sick), three respectable Sierra Leone emigrants to go to the King and explain my sentiments to him relative to these slave-traders, and I furnished Messrs. Thomas, Goodin, and Turner, my messengers, with my message in writing, which they were to translate and explain to King Docemo.

On their return to the Consulate, Messrs. Thomas, Goodin, and Turner informed me that the King and Chiefs were all highly pleased with my message. This I could not comprehend, knowing how favourable they all are for a renewal of the Slave Trade; but I attributed this declaration of their pleasure to their usual hypocrisy.

On the following morning I learnt that my message had been, if not wrongly interpreted to the Chiefs, at least very improperly understood by them; as the Chiefs had congratulated each other, and the slave-dealers, at having obtained the Consul's permission for them to remain.

Upon this, Mr. Williams, the interpreter, being on the following day sufficiently well, I directed him to take a Mr. Nottidge with him, and to explain to the King and Chiefs the real meaning of my message relative to the slave-dealers, and at the same time to interpret to the King and Chiefs, and to leave with the former, my formal protest against these well-known slave-dealers, whom King Docemo had only fifteen months before expelled from Lagos, confiscating their property, being allowed to re-establish themselves in Lagos. The temper of the King and Chiefs on being acquainted with my real sentiments relative to the slave-dealers was rather ruffled, and the answer returned to me not satisfactory; and they wished to know whether Kosoko was in like manner tied down by Treaty not to allow slave-traders to reside with him.

I had previously furnished King Docemo, as well as the Alake or King of Abeokuta, with a copy of Kosoko's Engagement. I nevertheless on the following

morning copied the IIIrd Article of the Engagement with Kosoko, and appended my remarks or message to King Docemo and his Chiefs, and again sent Mr. Williams and Mr. Nottidge to interpret and explain the same to them.

Messrs. Williams and Nottidge returned, bringing a vague promise from King Docemo that the slave-dealers will not be allowed to remain.

King Docemo has, nevertheless, given Senhor Marco a house to reside in; Senhors Machado and Morals have also obtained a house to remain in, are landing their tobacco and disposing of it, principally to Tinnaboo, and they intend shortly to dispatch their chartered vessel, the "Destino," back to Bahia.

Senhor Jambo has returned to Whydah in the "Liberal," and is to get back to Lagos by way of the Lagoon, doubtless after he has heard of the safe arrival of the slaves which it is notorious Tinnaboo has forwarded from this to Whydah, *vid* Abbeokuta and Okeadon.

I should inform your Lordship that for several months past it had been hinted to me that Tinnaboo was corresponding with Senhor Jambo, inviting him and others to return to Lagos; and that the slave-traders were waiting for the protection of a French Consul, who it was asserted was on his way to Lagos, and was only waiting at Whydah for the arrival of the French brig-of-war "Entreprenant," to be brought to Lagos in a formal and official manner. About a week since I ascertained that this person, who gave himself out as the French Consul for Lagos, was no other than M. Louis Lamaignère, known in the Slave Trade annals as Don Luis, who for many years was either the partner or agent of Pedro Blanco at Gallinas and the Shebar.

It appears that Don Luis who, when at Gallinas, was well informed of what was passing at Sierra Leone, and of the movements of the squadron, having heard of Commodore Sir Charles Hotham's intention to destroy the slave factories at Gallinas, chartered an American vessel and went off to Bahia with all the property he could scrape together, and he has since been living at this latter place in an expensive style, which, coupled with gambling, is said to have placed him in reduced circumstances. I am informed he is connected at Bahia with M. Gantois. I hear of Don Luis being sometimes with Domingo Martins, and sometimes at Whydah.

Should Captain Villeneuve bring Don Luis with him I shall not fail to make him acquainted with the history and former occupation of Don Luis.

In confirmation of the intention of the slave-dealers to renew the trade at this place, I beg to transmit, for your Lordship's information, an original letter from Abbeokuta, showing the effect in that large town of the present movement in Lagos to renew Slave Trade. I have to pray that the writer's name be suppressed.

I regret being compelled to make to your Lordship this unfavourable report of King Docemo, from whom a better disposition to observe his Treaty engagement was expected.

In my despatch dated 24th November last, I reported to your Lordship that King Docemo and his Chiefs had, at my suggestion, allotted a piece of ground as a general market for the people of Epé, Badagry, and Porto Novo. This ground was being inclosed with an alacrity and energy quite unusual with the people of Lagos, and was nearly completed, when these old slave-traders arrived. Since they have been here and distributed their tobacco, not another stick has been cut for the fence, and the place remains incomplete.

I had procured with some difficulty messengers to send to King of Jaboo to accompany those of King Docemo, with presents, and a message to that Chief; the object being to get him to proclaim the opening of the markets of the Jaboo country to the people of Lagos. Docemo, on some frivolous pretext, declined sending to the King of Jaboo, and the native traders have since evinced no further interest in opening the Jaboo markets; and I hear from them nothing more about it.

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Consul Campbell to King Docemo.

Lagos, December 16, 1854.

THE Queen of England's Consul presents his best respects to King Docemo.

The Consul finds it necessary, in consequence of the message sent by the King this morning to the Consul, relative to the conversation that had taken place yesterday between the Consul and the two Brazillian supercargoes who called yesterday morning at the British Consulate, to inform the King that he did not tell the supercargoes he (the Consul) would not allow them to remain here. The supercargoes said that they wished to dispatch their vessel, a Sardinian brig, on account of the heavy sum paid for the hire of her, and the Consul understood them to say they, the supercargoes, intended to remain, to dispose of their cargo (tobacco), to which the Consul made no remark whatsoever as to their intention of remaining in Lagos.

The Consul disclaims having any right to dictate to the King who shall reside in Lagos, except in the case of British subjects, to whom that right has been secured by Treaty.

At the same time it is the Consul's duty to inform the King, that through the Queen's Consuls in the Brazils, and from other sources, it has come to the knowledge of the Queen's Government and of the Consul, that it is the intention of the slave-traders (those who were driven from here and those who are residing at Whydah) to again get a footing in Lagos, and re-establish themselves. It has also been reported to the Queen's Government, that the slave-traders here and their friends in the Brazils, intend purchasing slaves to ship to Brazils, and that the slave-traders in Bahia were shipping large quantities of tobacco to this part of the coast to their friends to buy slaves with.

Now, this part of the information is evidently true, for we see large quantities of tobacco brought here, which will never sell for palm oil, and can only be sold for slaves.

As the Queen's Consul is furnished by the Queen's Government with books containing reports of all Slave Trade matters that have occurred at Lagos and elsewhere, during the last twenty years, reports giving the names of the vessels, the names of the captains, and the names of the shippers of the slaves, and the numbers of the slaves shipped by them, it is only for the Consul to refer to these books when he hears that any slave-trader wishes to establish himself at Lagos, to see if his name appears in these books, and if the name should appear, it is then the Consul's duty to warn the King of the fact, and to protest against such slave-trader being allowed to establish himself in Lagos, and of its being a breach of the IInd Article of the Treaty, and then to report the same to the Queen's Government, which will take such measures for the enforcement of the Treaty as it may deem fit.

So satisfied is the Queen's Government of the truth of the information it has received from the Consuls in Brazils (which will be confirmed by what it will now be the Consul's duty to report), that the Queen's Government have reinforced the Commodore with additional steamers to watch the Bight of Benin, and there will shortly be six steamers and sailing vessels cruising in these parts to intercept the slave-vessels expected.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

Consul Campbell to King Docemo.

Lagos, December 18, 1854.

BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, deems it his duty to warn King Docemo that Senhors Marco Jambo and Machado, who are at present in Lagos, and seeking to re-establish themselves in this town, are notoriously engaged in Slave Trade, and formerly carried on Slave Trade in Lagos, and latterly in Whydah, and other places.

The Consul warns King Docemo against allowing the above-named persons, or any other person notoriously engaged in Slave Trade, to establish themselves in Lagos, as by doing so King Docemo will commit a breach of the IInd Article of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoye with Rear-Admiral Bruce, and John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Majesty's late Consul, on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

It will be the Consul's duty to report to Her Majesty's Government this attempt of the old slave-traders to establish themselves again in Lagos, and it is now his duty to, and he does most solemnly protest, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, against the above-named Senhors Marco Jambo and Machado, and any other well-known slave-trader, forming any establishment in Lagos, or within the territory of the King of Lagos.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

Message sent by Consul Campbell to King Docemo.

"ARTICLE III. Kosoko, his Cabooceers and Chiefs, do most solemnly pledge themselves to abandon the Slave Trade, that is, the export of slaves from Africa; also not to allow any slave-trader to reside at their port or at any other place within their jurisdiction and influence."

The above is the IIIrd Article in the Treaty with Kosoko. It is much stronger worded than the Article in the Treaty signed by Akitoye, because Kosoko is forbidden to let slave-traders remain in any town where he has influence even.

You will please ask the King why these slave-traders have come here to Lagos, instead of going to Kosoko, at Epé.

When they set sail from Whydah the same wind that brought them here would have taken them to Epé. The Consul knows very well the reason they came here in preference to going to Kosoko, at Epé, first. The Consul knows well that Tinnaboo sent them letters some months ago inviting them to come to Lagos; that is, she sent letters to Jambo and others at Whydah, not to Marco at Accra: therefore these slave-dealers have come here by invitation of Tinnaboo, and with the full knowledge and consent of King Docemo.

There are other reasons why they did not, and moreover will not, go to Kosoko: they know that Kosoko has made a Treaty with the English, and that he will not break that Treaty; and they know that if they try to make a fool of Kosoko, what he will do to them. They know also that Lagos is a better place to get slaves quicker; there is a large population in Lagos, from which several hundreds can be, and are being, kidnapped. That the communication between Lagos and Abbeokuta is easy and very frequent. That the slaves they buy here and from the Egbas can be sent by way of Abbeokuta and Okeadon to Whydah. And the Consul knows very well that every night, slaves and people kidnapped in Lagos are crossed over to Aboo-te-ma-ta, to go to Abbeokuta, and from thence, by way of Okeadon, to Whydah.

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

* * * to Consul Campbell.

(Extract.)

Abbeokuta, December 19, 1854.

IT is a general report about Abbeokuta that you are coming up to visit the Abbeokuta people. I would advise you to let your lodging be provided by the King himself. As the inhabitants in general do not understand your intentions and proceedings in the management of the affairs of this country: they think you are their enemy, and therefore wish their ruin. They all believe that you ordered the Badagry war.

Do not, should you come up to Abbeokuta, place yourself under any of the Chiefs of war; they are great rogues and rascals, especially Somoye, or Basherun, and Shogkenu. Shogkenu is kidnapping for sale the poor people who come

from the interior for the purpose of trading; these he catches, sometimes 6, 10, 20. Some time ago he accused one of his wives of having an unlawful child; after punishing the poor woman severely, he cut the child to pieces. This Shogkenu does anything with impunity. Basherun does always send to powerful Chiefs in the interior to catch their trading people, and sell them; this he does in order to put down lawful trade and promote kidnapping war. They have now sent out some of their soldiers to destroy a neighbouring town, and catch the inhabitants for sale. The Slave Trade is still carried on by the people; they take their slaves to Porto Novo. All the War Chiefs are for the Slave Trade.

Shogkenu has perhaps 200 wives. He took a Sierra Leone woman's daughter, by the name of Jenny Johnson, and kept her for about eleven years; but this last time the woman and her daughter ran away to Lagos. Shogkenu is now determined to demand the woman Jenny Johnson from you.

The people practise much irony.* Should you come up, come with a good, faithful interpreter. I should not wonder if the people slight you, or deal deceitfully with you; they are great rogues; they say "yes," when they mean "no." They will make fine or fair faces when they see you; but be cautious when among them. Their slave-traders saw you when you were at Porto Novo, and brought many slanderous reports against you. Mr. Townsend will second anything that is good, though he might make a mistake on former occasions, for he is much against the proceedings of the Chiefs in things that are wrong.

No. 37.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, December 22, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated November 23.

Your Lordship will, I hope, excuse the natural desire I feel to offer such explanations of my motives for and conduct in countenancing the Badagry Chiefs to regain their town and homes, as I confidently trust will partially remove the unfavourable impression formed by your Lordship of my conduct in that matter.

Early in the month of November of last year I brought the conduct of Mayoo, the Badagry Chief, to the notice of the Commander-in-chief, Rear-Admiral Bruce, and furnished him with copies of letters fully confirming the information which had previously reached me relative to Mayoo's open violation of his Treaty engagement in assisting Domingo Martinez to obtain slaves.

My representation to the Commander-in-chief occasioned a strong letter on the subject from him to Mayoo, forwarded through this Consulate, of which I now do myself the honour to transmit your Lordship a copy.

The letter of the Commander-in-chief produced no effect whatever on Mayoo. Badagry was still the channel through which all slaves and kidnapped people from Lagos and Abbeokuta were forwarded on for sale to Domingo Martinez; and Mayoo still received his toll on each slave, notwithstanding he had burnt down the small shed on the beach under which his toll-keeper sheltered himself from the sun or the rain. Mr. Williams, the interpreter to the Consulate, a man of veracity, who arrived at Badagry from Sierra Leone in the latter end of November of last year, and who remained a short time there, informed me that slaves from Lagos still continued to be passed on to Domingo Martinez; and that on one occasion he was in conversation with Mayoo at the water-side, when a Lagos canoe arrived with slaves manacled; and that, after a short conversation with the Lagos people, Mayoo put one of his men, with his stick, into the canoe to cross over with them to the beach to receive the toll.

About this time the Chiefs of Little Popoe, Aghwey, and other towns on the seaboard, openly disregarded their Treaty engagements, and not only allowed but assisted in the embarkation of cargoes of slaves.

When the Commander-in-chief left Lagos, in November last year, I had

* Deceit.—B. C.

reason to expect his return in April or May of this year; and when, at the commencement of the present year, finding that Mayoo still forwarded slaves to Domingo Martinez, in total disregard of the caution and threat contained in the Commander-in-chief's letter to him of the 27th November, 1853, I threatened Mayoo with forcible expulsion, I was then under the impression that, on the gross violation of his Treaty being again brought to the notice of the Commander-in-chief, or, after his departure for England, to the notice of the senior officer, that the threat of the Commander-in-chief would be carried out; but when the division in the Bights was reduced to one vessel, the "Crane," and in the month of April Mr. Townsend offered his assistance and influence with the Abbeokuta Chiefs, to obtain the restoration of the Badagry Chiefs in a peaceable manner, I did not hesitate to proceed to rid Badagry of Mayoo's chieftainship by peaceable means, as detailed in my despatches to your Lordship dated 1st and 11th June, 1854.

The Badagry Chiefs, supported by the King of Porto, the Chiefs of the large neighbouring Popoe towns, and even by the King of Dahomey, because so urgent for their return, and determined to exercise their natural right to obtain their restoration, and Kosoko having sent his wives, children, and property to Adu, with the intention, it has now been ascertained, of assisting the Badagry Chiefs and obtaining for himself a footing at Badagry, it became necessary to take steps to prevent the serious disturbance throughout the country which would have ensued had not the Badagry Chiefs been reinstated.

Inclosure 1 in No. 37.

Rear-Admiral Bruce to Mayoo, Chief of Badagry.

Sir,

"Penelope," November 7, 1853.

ON receiving the many applications that have been made to me to remove you from the office of Chief of Badagry, I have considered, not whether you are there as the legitimate Chief, but whether you have acted up honestly and faithfully to the Treaty for the suppression of Slave Trade in your country; and, under the impression that you had fulfilled every stipulation of that Treaty, I declined to take any part against you. But reports have reached me recently which convince me that I have been deceived in you; for there can be no doubt that you have assisted Domingo Martinez in his slave-dealings, and detained many people who have from time to time been kidnapped from Lagos. I now give you warning, that if you do not cease these practices and employ all your energies to bring about peace with your neighbours, and encourage lawful trade in palm oil and other produce, I will send an expedition against you, and remove you from Badagry.

(Signed) H. W. BRUCE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 37.

Consul Campbell to Mr. Moses.

Dear Sir,

Lagos, February 7, 1854.

WITH reference to the messages sent you by the King of Porto Novo, that it is the intention of the old Badagrians to go and take their town from Mayoo, if I do not go to Badagry soon, I have to beg of you to let it be known to the King of Porto Novo that I have been, and am now, much occupied with the affairs of Lagos, and cannot yet go to Badagry. That the old Badagrians cannot attempt to take Badagry by force without the King of Porto Novo's help; that it would be much better they should return to their town by peaceable negotiation and means, but that if they do not listen to my recommendation, and they attempt to regain the town by force, Her Britannic Majesty's

Government will consider the King of Porto Novo responsible for any injury done to British subjects or their property, or to the persons and property of the Sierra Leone people who are under British protection.

I remain, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 38.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 5th of December last,* suggesting that you should be empowered to propose Treaties to the Chiefs of Adu and Okeadon, two towns in the interior, similar to the Treaties which have been concluded with the Chiefs on the sea-coast, and stating that the Chief of Agido had expressed his willingness to conclude a Treaty with Her Majesty's Government; and I have, in reply, to authorise you to conclude Treaties in the usual form with the Chiefs in question, if they should be willing to accept them.

I inclose, in compliance with your request, blank forms of the Treaties with African Chiefs; and I have to acquaint you that you are of course at liberty to sign such Treaties without previous reference to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 39.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of December last, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of your having required King Docemo to investigate the charge brought against the Chief Olomobong of having caused two of his female slaves to be put to death on the 23rd of September last.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 40.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 19th of December last, I have to state to you that I approve your having written to Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, and that I have instructed him to communicate to you, from time to time, such intelligence respecting the equipment of vessels at that port, or any movements connected with the Slave Trade, as he may consider likely to prove useful to you in your endeavours to thwart the proceedings of the slave-dealers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 29.

No. 41.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of December last, in which you report the slaughter by King Docemo's adherents of eighty persons captured from Kosoko's party; and I have to instruct you, when you shall be able to do so with safety, to inform King Docemo that Her Majesty's Government have learned these revolting atrocities with horror, and to demand an explanation of this violation of the VIIth Article of the Treaty of the 1st of January, 1852.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 42.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of December last, stating that three notorious slave-traders, named Marco, Jambo, and Ma hado, who were expelled by King Docemo in September 1853, have returned to Lagos, and have been allowed to establish themselves there, notwithstanding your remonstrances against this violation of the IIInd Article of the Treaty concluded between Her Majesty's Government and the King and Chiefs of Lagos on the 2nd of January, 1852.

I have to instruct you to communicate formally to King Docemo the regret and dissatisfaction of Her Majesty's Government, not only at his conduct in this matter, but also in regard to the general tendency of his late proceedings, and his manifest disposition to revive the Slave Trade, which, so happily for his country, had much diminished.

You will say that Her Majesty's Government had anticipated a very different course of conduct on his part, and, as they are animated by friendly feelings towards himself and his people, they regret that he is guided by bad advisers; and they strongly recommend him to be advised by the Consul who represents Her Majesty's Government, and whose conduct has been approved, which it would not have been if he had given advice contrary to the King's interest. But Her Majesty's Government wish King Docemo to understand that engagements made with the Queen of England must be respected, and that it will rest with him to choose between the friendship or hostility of Great Britain, and the good or bad consequences to himself which that choice will entail.

You will conclude by referring King Docemo to the IIInd Article of the Treaty of January 1852, and by requiring him, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, to expel from Lagos, within fifteen days, the foreign slave-dealers above mentioned, and also any others who may be there when this despatch reaches you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 43.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 6th and 22nd of December last,* in which you state the motives which induced you to interfere in favour of the restoration of the Chiefs of Badagry and the expulsion of Mayoo; and I have

* Nos. 31 and 37.

to state to you that, on taking into consideration the circumstances stated in these despatches, and the evidence which you have brought forward showing the participation of Mayoo in the slave-trading operations of Domingo Martinez, Her Majesty's Government are ready to admit the validity of the reasons which you have alleged in justification of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 44.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Campbell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 23, 1855.

I RECEIVED on the 5th instant the duplicate of your despatch of the 1st of October, inclosing a copy of the Treaty which you, in conjunction with Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," concluded on the 28th of September last with Kosoko, the ex-King of Lagos, whereby Kosoko, on the one hand, engages to abstain from attacking Lagos, to abandon the Slave Trade, and to expel all slave-dealers from his present territory; and Her Majesty's Government are bound, on the other hand, to pay to Kosoko an annual allowance for his life of 2,000 heads of cowries, or 1,000 dollars, at his option.

I also received, on the same day, your despatch of the 24th of November, explaining the motives which led you to enter into this Treaty.

I have to observe that the amount of compensation which is promised to Kosoko by the VIth Article of the Treaty is much larger than Her Majesty's Government have ever engaged to pay under similar circumstances. Nevertheless, as it is desirable that Her Majesty's Government should avail themselves of every means which may hold out a reasonable security against the revival of the Slave Trade at Lagos, and as it is of importance that Kosoko should be bound not to carry on that Trade on his own account, and to prevent slave-dealers from residing in his new territory, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have deemed it expedient to approve this Treaty, which approval you will communicate to Kosoko.

And I inclose herewith, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter which has been addressed to this office from the Board of Treasury, stating that the annuity in question of 1,000 dollars is to be paid by Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos at the close of each year during Kosoko's life, provided that the conditions of the Treaty shall be satisfactorily performed by him, and authorising you to draw bills for the amount, at thirty days' sight, upon the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury under the usual regulations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 44.

Mr. Wilson to Lord Wodehouse.

My Lord,

Treasury Chambers, February 21, 1855.

I AM commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to inform you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, with reference to your letter of yesterday's date, inclosing copy of a Treaty which was concluded on the 28th of September last, between Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, and Kosoko, the ex-King of that place, whereby Kosoko engages to abstain from attacking Lagos, to abandon the Slave Trade, and to expel all slave-traders from his territory, and Her Majesty's Government are bound to pay to Kosoko for his life an annual allowance of 2,000 heads of cowries or 1,000 dollars at his option, on condition that he shall faithfully perform his part of the Agreement in question; that my Lords are of opinion that the

annuity of 1,000 dollars stipulated by the Treaty should be paid by Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos to Kosoko during his life at the close of each year, provided the conditions of the Treaty shall be satisfactorily performed by him; and that Her Majesty's Consul should draw bills at thirty days' sight upon this Board for the amount, under the usual regulations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JAMES WILSON.

No 45.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 3, 1855.

IN my despatch dated 21st December last,* reporting to your Lordship an attempt made to revive the Slave Trade at this place, and the favourable manner in which certain old slave-traders formerly expelled from Lagos had been received by King Docemo and his Chiefs; and that these slave-traders were in the early expectation of the arrival of a French Consul through whose influence they reckoned upon support; and that I had ascertained that this supposed French Consul was no other than M. Louis Lamoignon, alias Don Luis, the former agent of Pedro Blanco at Gallinas and Shebar, I have now the honour to report to your Lordship that M. Louis Lamoignon made his appearance in Lagos about three weeks since. He arrived very early in the morning, accompanied by Senhor Jambo in a canoe, by way of the lagoon from Whydah.

On his arrival Senhor Jambo sent word to King Docemo that the French Consul himself would wait upon him at an early hour. King Docemo arrayed himself in all his finery, and received M. Lamoignon and Senhor Jambo in state.

After their conference with King Docemo, M. Lamoignon and Senhor Jambo waited on me. The former presented me with a letter of introduction from M. Sartigue, Gérant to the French factory at Whydah, stating the object of M. Lamoignon to be to establish a French factory at Lagos.

M. Lamoignon at the same time requested I would read an open letter of introduction he had received from the French Consul at Bahia, to the Commandant de la Station Française on the west coast of Africa. He then remarked that he had learnt there was an objection to Senhor Jambo and other Brazilians establishing themselves at Lagos; and I acquainted him that by the terms of the Treaty concluded by the late King Akitoye (the present King's father) with Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to which the Imperial Government of France had since become a party, no well-known slave-traders were allowed to remain in Lagos; and that Senhores Jambo and Machado, then in Lagos, came under that category.

M. Lamoignon then remarked, that intending to establish a French factory at Lagos, he required the assistance of some person initiated in the trade of these parts, and that he had brought Senhor Jambo with him; that in fact they were both interested in the cargo of the Portuguese brig "Liberal," part of which had been landed in Lagos.

After a few other general remarks, M. Lamoignon and Senhor Jambo took their leave.

I should observe to your Lordship that M. Lamoignon during his visit did not make the slightest allusion to the French Consulship.

I now learnt that Senhor Marco on his arrival here, as reported to your Lordship in my despatch above referred to, had engaged a house in Lagos for M. Lamoignon, in which he at once installed himself, and hoisted the French flag. He was soon visited by the Chiefs and others well known to be longing for a revival of the Slave Trade.

Perceiving the excitement occasioned by M. Lamoignon's arrival, and the hopes it gave rise to, I lost no time in making King Docemo acquainted with

* No. 36.

his personal history, and the active part he had taken for several years in Slave Trade at Gallinas and Shebar, which were recorded in the printed Slave Trade Correspondence, of which I fortunately possess copies from the year 1838; and that it was my opinion that M. Lamoignon came to Lagos with the object of reviving the Slave Trade, and of assisting the expelled Brazilian and Portuguese slave-traders to regain a footing in Lagos, and that his establishment at Lagos, as well as the residence of the Brazilians and Portuguese, were alike forbidden by the Treaty.

King Docemo not paying much attention to my representations, I reported the whole circumstance to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," the Senior Officer of the Bights Division, who at once peremptorily demanded of King Docemo the removal of all well-known slave-traders from Lagos; upon which King Docemo sent his stick to M. Lamoignon, and to Senhors Jambo, Machado, and others, to remove from Lagos.

Soon after the King's messenger had delivered his message to M. Lamoignon and the others to depart from Lagos, I received a letter from M. Lamoignon, which I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship in original. To this letter I sent the reply inclosed, and on the same day I received the letter No. 3 from M. Lamoignon, claiming my protection; to which I replied as per inclosed, copy No. 4; and I at once sent a message to the King, informing him that as M. Lamoignon had formally claimed my protection against his forcible expulsion, I requested he might be allowed to remain in Lagos until the arrival of the French ship of war "Entreprenant," when M. Lamoignon could make his case known to Captain Villeneuve. It was then intimated to M. Lamoignon that the order to remove from Lagos did not extend to him.

Several days having elapsed, and Senhors Jambo and the others being still in the town, and the population becoming greatly excited, Commander Miller again wrote to Docemo, calling on him peremptorily to expel the slave-traders. Upon this Senhors Marco and others took passage in a canoe, by way of the lagoon to Whydah; and a few days after Senhors Jambo, Machado, and M. Lamoignon, came to the Consulate, and the two former presented protests, which they desired me officially to note, protesting against myself as being the cause of their expulsion, &c. Their protests were noted as a matter of course; and M. Lamoignon, declaring he would not remain in Lagos if Senhor Jambo was compelled to depart, accompanied him shortly afterwards in a canoe to Whydah.

I hope your Lordship will approve of my having made known to King Docemo the former occupation of M. Lamoignon at the Gallinas and Shebar, and of my having pressed King Docemo to conform to his Treaty engagements. The return of these slave-traders, in the perfect confidence that they would be well received and protected by Docemo, his Chiefs and people, and that under the shelter of a French Consulate flag their expulsion would be prevented, created great excitement in the town. This circumstance, with other influences which were then and had been previously at work, led to a plot, which had for its object my assassination, and the expulsion or assassination of the English, and those who were supposed to be favourable to them.

The particulars of this conspiracy will form the subject of a separate despatch.

M. Lamoignon arrived at Whydah about four months since in a Sardinian brig, from Bahia, in which city he has been mostly residing since he left the Gallinas, just previous to the destruction of the slave factories there by Sir Charles Hotham in 1845 or 1846: he is connected with M. Gantois (Marbeck and Gantois), and the other houses in Bahia largely engaged in Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin, whose names figure in the translated correspondence found in Kosoko's house after his flight.

Your Lordship's attention has already been directed by Mr. Consul Morgan to the attempt being made by these Bahia firms to push the Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin. These firms, I am informed, have relied greatly on the assistance of M. Lamoignon, and through him on the protection of the French flag for their agents.

M. Lamoignon could not have contemplated on coming here that he would be recognised, and his former Slave Trade transactions known to any person here. Had he arrived at Lagos from France with the honest purpose of establishing a French factory for legitimate trade, although I should have felt it

my duty to apprise your Lordship of the circumstance of his arrival here, I should certainly not have made known his former Slave Trade occupations so long as he confined his operations to legitimate commerce; but coming as he did, accompanied by, and connected with, people notoriously engaged in Slave Trade, I considered it my duty to warn King Docemo of M. Lamaignère's former illicit transactions, and to report the whole circumstances to Commodore Adams and to the Senior Officer of the Bights Division.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 45.

M. Lamaignère to Consul Campbell.

M. le Consul,

Lagos, le 19 Janvier, 1855.

J'AI reçu hier au soir, du Roi de Lagos, la signification de par vos ordres, mon associé Pierre Jambo et moi sortir immédiatement de ce pays. Comme à mon arrivée ici j'eus l'honneur de me présenter à vous comme Français (que je suis) et porteur, pour MM. les Commandants des navires de la station Française sur la côte d'Afrique, d'une lettre de recommandation de M. le Comte Francis de Castelnau, Consul de France à Bahia, je croyais que notre maison, comme Française, serait en dehors de cette violation du droit des gens; mais, puisqu'il n'en est pas ainsi et dans l'absence de bâtiment de guerre de ma nation, je viens, M. le Consul, vous demander de faire retirer non seulement l'ordre que le Roi de Lagos nous a donné, comme aussi vous demander votre protection afin de pouvoir continuer nos affaires et recouvrer de divers négocians de cette place, la quantité d'environ 22,000 galons d'huile de palme, qui sont dûs à l'opération du brick Portugais "Libéral," dans laquelle je suis particulièrement intéressé pour la moitié.

J'attends avec anxiété votre réponse, et ai l'honneur de vous prévenir que j'ai déjà arboré le pavillon Français afin de protéger nos personnes et nos intérêts.

Recevez, &c.
(Signé) L. LAMAIGNERE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 45.

Consul Campbell to M. Lamaignère.

Monsieur,

Lagos, January 19, 1855.

I HAVE given the King Docemo no orders whatever respecting yourself or Senhor Jambo; it is not my duty, nor is it in my power, to give any orders to the King, but it is my duty to warn him that you were formerly extensively engaged in Slave Trade at Gallinas and Shebar, and that such fact appears in the published correspondence on Slave Trade annually presented to the British Parliament, and furnished to all Her Britannic Majesty's Consuls. It is also my duty to call the attention of King Docemo to the circumstance that you have arrived here in the company of a noted slave-trader, and that you have, since your arrival, declared yourself to be the champion and protector of the slave-traders who were formerly expelled from Lagos by the present King, in conformity with his Treaty engagements to Her Britannic Majesty, to which Treaty the Imperial Government of France is also a party, and that it is but a just inference that the Slave Trade is your object in visiting Lagos.

I am, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 45.

M. Lamaignère to Consul Campbell.

M. le Consul,

Lagos, le 19 Janvier, 1855.

JE viens de recevoir votre lettre et ne répondrai pas à des accusations non fondées. Si je voulais feuilleter l'histoire j'y trouverais la seule réponse que je pourrai vous donner en ce moment. Je vais donc seulement répondre à l'accusation que vous me faites en disant que dès mon arrivée ici, je me suis déclaré le champion et protecteur de négocians d'esclaves, ce qui est faux et ne peut même pas être, attendu que la Traite est définitivement achevée partout, et que vous, M. le Consul, en votre qualité et d'après les Traités de votre nation avec le Roi de ce pays, savez très-bien avoir le droit de faire expulser et confisquer les biens de tous ceux que vous prouvez se livrer dorénavant à ce trafic. Je ne puis donc pas admettre cette argumentation de votre part, et en suis d'autant plus étonné, que mon intention formelle en venant établir ici une maison Française, était d'employer tous mes efforts pour éviter ou empêcher toute nouvelle tentative d'un semblable commerce, et avais aussi l'intention de me lier aux idées de la majorité des négocians de ce pays afin d'éviter tout motif d'intrigue et de désordre.

Quant à ce qui concerne mon associé Pierre Jambo, voilà déjà sept années que je le connais sobrecargue de navires de commerce licite, négociant avec tous les établissemens Anglais et Hollandais de la côté du vent, et ici, avec des négocians Anglais, ce qui fait qu'il me semble que votre accusation à son égard est encore mal fondée.

Les considérations que j'ai l'honneur de vous soumettre me font espérer que vous voudrez bien m'accorder la protection que je vous demande, car au cas contraire, je me verrai forcé à protester contre vous, ou contre qui de droit, pour tous les dommages et pertes qui pourront subvenir à nos intérêts et aux intérêts qui nous sont confiés. Enfin, quoique contre la force il n'y a point de résistance, je suis néanmoins décidé à résister à toutes les menaces et injures qui pourront m'être faits, protestant encore contre vous et en votre qualité de Consul d'une nation amie, pour toutes les conséquences et outrages qui pourront être faits au pavillon de ma nation que j'ai déjà arboré.

Recevez, &c.

(Signé) L. LAMAIGNÈRE.

P.S.—Répondez-moi, s'il vous plait.

Inclosure 4 in No. 45.

Consul Campbell to M. Lamaignère.

Monsieur,

Lagos, January 19, 1855.

I HAVE received your letter of this day, in which you solicit my protection against the order given to you by the King Docemo to leave Lagos.

I have to inform you that, having claimed my protection, I shall inform the King of the circumstance, and request him to withdraw his order to you to leave Lagos, and to await the arrival of Captain Du Creste Villeneuve, the Commandant of the subdivision of the French squadron stationed in the Bights of Benin and Biafra.

I am, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 46.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 12, 1855.

FOR several months past there has existed on the part of King Docemo, his Chiefs and people (domestic slaves), and a few of the mischievous disposed Sierra Leone people, and self-emancipated Africans from Brazil, a feeling and disposition hostile to the English residents generally, and to myself in particular. This feeling displayed itself after my first visit to Epé, Kosoko's residence, and it was grounded on reports industriously spread among the ignorant and uncivilised population, that I intended to restore Kosoko to his former position in Lagos, and that the whole of the merchants were favourable to his restoration.

My last visit to Epé, in company with Commander Miller, although it resulted in obtaining a solemn engagement on the part of Kosoko and the whole of the Chiefs not to disturb the peace of Lagos by threats of open attack, or attempts by stratagem to regain power here, and in rendering transit on the Lagoons for many miles perfectly safe and free (which is the case up to this moment), did not in the least allay the ill-feeling towards myself and the whole European mercantile community; on the contrary, this hostile feeling increased to the extent of leading to a conspiracy by some of King Docemo's leading domestic slaves, the woman Tinnaboo, and some others, to get rid of myself by assassination, and of the English merchants and the leading men among the Sierra Leone and Brazilian emigrants known to be favourable to the English, either by assassination or forcible expulsion, and secret meetings were nightly held at Tinnaboo's house to devise means to carry out their objects.

The excitement caused by the return of some of the expelled slave-traders, and afterwards by the arrival of M. Lamaignère (Don Luis), greatly augmented the existing ill-feeling of a large portion of the population towards myself; and friendly warnings which I had previously received, not only from persons in the town of Lagos, but even from Kosoko and from the King of Porto Novo, to guard against poison and not to be from home after sunset, were again repeated with great earnestness; and the information conveyed to me that, on the occasion of my paying an evening visit a short time previous to a Mr. Grote, at the Hamburg establishment, near the King's house, it had been determined by some of the King's people, had I remained till after dark, when the crowds in the street were dispersed, to shoot me as I rode homewards.

Commander Miller, calling on King Docemo to expel the slave-traders, appeared to bring matters towards a crisis. Antonio Martins, one of the Brazilian emigrants, a man of great intelligence and sagacity, in credit with the merchants and doing an extensive business, being known to be friendly disposed towards the English and other merchants, and commanding the services of some 150 well-armed devoted domestic slaves, with whom he would fly to the assistance of the merchants when attacked, was fired at in open day on his premises near the water-side, by one of King Docemo's people, and narrowly escaped being hit. This occurrence created considerable ferment, the more so as it had become known that the King and Tinnaboo had been secretly sharing out powder and ball to their people. There being none of Her Majesty's ships off Lagos at the time, I sent for Antonio Martins, and recommended him not to make any stir at the moment, but to wait till there was a force off Lagos. However, a general feeling of uneasiness pervaded the town; every one felt that an outbreak was at hand; beyond those implicated in the conspiracy, but a few knew its object. This state of insecurity led to a general arming. The day was now named when the attack was to take place, and Antonio Martins was warned by one in the confidence of the conspirators, but friendly to him, that his premises were to be first attacked.

I now assembled the leading men among the Sierra Leone emigrants, informed them of the expected general attack against the English and those favourable to them; that if successful against myself and the other Europeans, it would afterwards be directed against them; and I enjoined them to arm themselves at once, and to keep a strict night watch through their quarter of the town. My advice was at once acted upon, and its necessity soon became apparent; a large armed party of the King's people were seen that night to

proceed towards the small country-built house I had removed into after Mr. Sandeman's return to Lagos; they were followed at a distance by a guard of the Sierra Leone people, who, perceiving they took the direction towards Antonio Martin's premises, and knowing them to be well protected, the guard returned. It afterwards appeared that this armed party had gone to Antonio Martins, hoping by stratagem, and supposing their designs to be unknown, to surprise the place; they, however, found every one on the watch and well armed, and the party then returned.

The next morning, seeing how very insecure was the house I had moved into, that it was liable to be fired and surrounded, I returned, with his permission, to Mr. Sandeman's house, taking with me the archives of the Consulate, my books, clothing, &c. This house being situated on an elevated point of land near the water-side, and the neighbourhood being composed of the residences of the Sierra Leone people, it is to some extent protected from a sudden attack, and was sought as a refuge by others whose dwellings were in exposed situations.

I now sent word to King Docemo that I was fully cognizant of the conspiracy, and of the parties implicated in it, and the objects they had in view. I wrote to Commander Miller, of Her Majesty's ship "Crane," begging him to send in such force as he had at his disposal for our protection, and as a demonstration, who promptly complied with my request, and for three days all the disposable men from the "Crane," occupying three armed boats, remained off Mr. Sandeman's house.

At my request some of the most intelligent of the Sierra Leone people instituted an inquiry, which resulted in their ascertaining that an extensive conspiracy had existed among different sections of the population. One, headed by Tinnaboo and the King's people, had for their object, first, my assassination and the expulsion of the leading Brazilian and Sierra Leone emigrants known to be favourable to the English; if successful, it was then their intention to have deposed Docemo, and put a son of the late King Adele on the Throne of Lagos. Some of Docemo's Captains, those having at command the largest number of fighting men, countenanced this plot so far as the getting rid of myself, the other Englishmen, and the Sierra Leone and Brazilians; but, their object was, to depose Docemo and to recall Kosoko. It would appear that Docemo was aware of their intentions, so far as regarded the Brazilian people, whom he looked upon as friends of Kosoko; but he was kept ignorant of the ulterior intentions as affected himself. But there are not wanting persons who believe him to have been cognizant of the intentions of the conspirators towards myself and the English generally; the favourable manner in which he received the returned slave-traders, they having been heard to say, that if the present Consul was shot it would deter any other person from accepting the appointment; and that they had got rid of Mr. Duncan, driven away Mr. Fraser from Whydah, and no other Consul had been sent there, giving grounds for their opinion.

Commodore Adams arriving off Lagos shortly afterwards, I communicated to him all that had taken place. After a consultation with the present Senior Officer, Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and myself, it was decided that the Commodore would formally call on King Docemo to execute the man who fired on Antonio Martins, and expel from Lagos the woman Tinnaboo, Mahma, a leading man among the conspirators, one of Docemo's head slaves, a man of very bad character, and some others implicated in the intended outbreak.

I went, accompanied by Commander Skene, to King Docemo, and through a letter addressed by Commodore Adams to the King, it was made known to him what it was expected he would do to maintain the peace of Lagos, and to secure the lives of Her Majesty's subjects residing in Lagos; and he decided on executing the man who fired at Antonio Martins, and banishing Tinnaboo, Mahma, and some others. The former being in the same prison with Mahma, this daring fellow persuaded or intimidated the jailor into letting him escape. King Docemo on acquainting me of the escape of the prisoner on the following day, also informed me that he had determined on executing Mahma; and his determination was carried into effect the following day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 47.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 15, 1855.

THREE weeks since I received a letter from Dr. Irving at Abbeokuta, written at the request of the Alake (King) of Abbeokuta and his Chiefs, informing me that they had received information, in the correctness of which they placed confidence, that the King of Dahomey was preparing to attack Abbeokuta with his own troops, and assisted with a large force from the King of Ashantee.

For some months past rumours of such intention on the part of the King of Dahomey were current. A few days before the receipt of Dr. Irving's letter I had received information, on which I placed reliance, that the King of Dahomey had received considerable presents, and a large supply of muskets and ammunition from the Slave Trade houses in Bahia, to induce him to make another attack on Abbeokuta. I lost no time in acquainting the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta with this information, and my letter to them crossed theirs to me on the road.

The Alake and Chiefs having requested a supply of powder and some shot to fit the field-pieces which had been presented to them by Her Majesty's Government, I assembled the principal Sierra Leone people residing in Lagos, and represented to them the necessity of assisting their countrymen in this juncture; they responded to my representation by shortly dispatching about 1,000 lbs. weight of gunpowder; and I took the opportunity of sending them a supply of shot and grape for their field pieces, which I had had by me for some time when we were apprehensive of being attacked by Kosoko; and on hearing subsequently from Dr. Irving that several of the Sierra Leone people at Abbeokuta were provided with percussion muskets, but had neither caps nor ball cartridge, I applied to the Senior Officer, who at once furnished a supply, which I immediately sent off to Dr. Irving.

I have also represented to King Docemo the propriety of his assisting his friends; and he has promised me that he will send them a quantity of iron bars to make ball, and fifty kegs of gunpowder.

I have also written to the King of Dahomey a warning letter, copy of which I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship; and I have addressed a letter to Kosoko, to the King of Porto Novo, and to the Chiefs of Badagry, calling on them not to aid the King of Dahomey in his intended attack on Abbeokuta, and to restrain the people under their influence from joining the Dahomian forces.

On the arrival of Commodore Adams a week since, I brought to his notice the apprehended attack on Abbeokuta, and he gave me a letter to forward to the King of Dahomey couched in the same sense as mine.

Should the King Gezo receive those letters before he has gone too far, it is not improbable he may make the interference of the English an excuse for abandoning his enterprize.

In explanation of the concluding part of my letter to King of Dahomey, I feel bound to inform your Lordship that were the just principle *audi alteram partem*, adopted in judging of the differences between the King and the Egbas, it would be found that Dahomey's first attack on Abbeokuta cannot be considered as quite unprovoked. I have in my possession a list of more than twenty-five of the towns and large villages on the Dahomian frontier which have been swept from the face of the earth, and their inhabitants either slain or taken captive by the Egbas, prior to the Dahomian attack on Abbeokuta; and another list of more than twenty large towns and villages that have met a similar fate at the hands of the Egbas since the Dahomian attack on their town, independent of the long siege by the Egbas of the fortified town of Adu, which town Dahomey considers as the key to his dominions on the eastward, and to the territory ruled over by his relative the King of Porto Novo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Consul Campbell to the King of Dahomey.

Lagos, January 26, 1855.

BENJAMIN CAMPBELL, Esquire, Consul to Her Britannic Majesty Queen Victoria for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, sends his best respects to His Highness Gezo, King of Dahomey.

The Consul has heard, with great pain and uneasiness, that the King of Dahomey is now on his road, with a large army of Dahomians and Ashantees, to Abbeokuta, with the intention of attacking that town, destroying it, and killing and enslaving its inhabitants.

The Queen of England's Consul warns His Highness the King of Dahomey that there are in the town of Abbeokuta several subjects of Her Majesty the Queen of England, employed in the peaceful, innocent, and good object of introducing among its inhabitants the pure and holy religion of Jesus Christ—the only religion which leads to civilization, and which has civilized those portions of mankind which have embraced it; and that any wrong or injury done to the Queen of England's subjects, so usefully and innocently employed, by the armies of the King of Dahomey, will draw down on the King the great displeasure of the Queen of England's Government, and of the whole Christian world.

The Consul also reminds His Highness the King of Dahomey that there are residing in Abbeokuta about 3,000 Africans of the Yoruba nation, who were liberated from slavery by the philanthropy and benevolence of the English, taken to Sierra Leone, there made free, taught the Christian religion, and some of the useful trades and occupations of civilized life. That, although these people have returned of their own free will to the land of their fathers, the Queen of England's Government and her people continue to feel the greatest interest for their present and future welfare; and that the killing or again enslaving those people who have once been made free by England will be looked upon with indignation, and not without a feeling of horror, that, if they should fall into the hands of the King of Dahomey's soldiery, it may be the fate of some of them to be sacrificed at those annual cruel customs, the bare description of which, by those who have witnessed them, makes every Christian heart in England bleed with horror.

The Consul, therefore, in the hope that this letter may reach the King's hands in time, most seriously and solemnly entreats him to abandon his intended attack on Abbeokuta, and to call home his armies. Should the King disregard the Consul's entreaty, then the Consul must remind the King that, should a good providence protect Abbeokuta on the present, as on the King's last attack on that town, defeat will bring ruin, disgrace and mortification on the King; which, combined with the suppression of the Slave Trade, may prostrate his power for ever; but that, should unhappily the King's overwhelming force prevail, and the Queen of England's subjects be killed or maltreated, then the Queen will have right to demand redress from the King of Dahomey, whose dominions are bounded on one side by that ocean through which the King receives his supplies, and on which the Queen's power, through her ships of war, is irresistible.

In the hope that, on this friendly letter being read to, and understood by the King, he will abandon his present enterprise, the Consul offers the King the friendly and impartial interposition of the Queen of England's Government, to bring to a friendly settlement any existing disputes between the King and the people of Abbeokuta, and that the whole influence of the Queen of England's Government with the people of Abbeokuta shall be employed to restrain them from giving cause of offence for the future to the King of Dahomey, his allies, his Chiefs, and people.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Bight of Biafra.*

No. 48.

Consul Beecroft to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to state, for your Lordship's information, that I left this place in Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope" on the 18th ultimo, for the purpose of delivering the annual presents to the Kings and Chiefs in the various rivers in the Bight of Biafra, and returned from the last river visited (Camerouns) on the 10th instant.

I beg leave to inclose a brief journal of my proceedings while on that duty.

At Bonny, I found it necessary to depose King Pepple, and beg leave to inclose the papers connected therewith.

I have further to acquaint your Lordship that I have detained the first of the presents sent out for New Calabar, as it was proved that King Ammacree and his Chiefs had negotiated with a slaver subsequently to the signing of the Treaty with England for the suppression of the foreign Slave Trade. I beg leave to inclose a portion of the "*Restorado's*" Slave Trade book while in the New Calabar river, involving three of the Chiefs in this nefarious proceeding. Now, although Ammacree gave information to the white men in the river, of the purpose for which the "*Restorado*" had come, and which eventually led to her capture, yet, in my estimation, whatever might have been his real intention in regard to her, he forfeited all claim to the presents. In my opinion, the simple act of negotiation, the promise on his part to supply a certain number of slaves on condition of being paid a certain price, was to all intents and purposes a breach of that faith, for the keeping of which inviolate these presents were to be given. No doubt, the measure will make them more careful in future. I wait, however, your Lordship's direction as to their disposal. This slave-vessel was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Ferret*," in March last year.

On the application of the masters and supercargoes in this river, I interfered in a quarrel that had existed for some time between the New Calabar and Eganny people, to the great detriment of the trade of the river, and obtained from the King and Chiefs a written promise to settle the dispute within one month.

I have the honour to inclose Appendage to the Old Calabar Slave Trade Treaty of the 6th December, 1841, and beg to refer your Lordship to my journal for my other proceedings in that river. I inclose, also, the whole of the papers in connexion with the delivery of the presents.

I trust my proceedings will meet with your Lordship's approbation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 48.

Journal of Proceedings in the Rivers Bonny, New Calabar, Old Calabar, and Cameroons.

ON January 19th, Her Majesty's Consul, John Beecroft, Esquire, arrived in Bonny, to investigate King Pepple's conduct, and at the request of the masters conveyed in two letters on December 17th and December 31st.

January 20th, at 10 A.M., went on shore, and convened a meeting of King Pepple and Chiefs. The first point entered upon was Pepple's reason for trying to commence a war with New Calabar, which he denied, and said such was never his intention. The Chiefs said it was his intention, and that they accompanied him as far as in sight of Young Town, without knowing his intention was otherwise than to visit his mother's country, Billa; and upon arriving there, he requested them to lay in wait at a certain point, which the Calabar men must pass on their way to the ships, which they refused, telling him they did not come to war.

The next question was relative to whether, if the Consul reinstated him, prohibiting him from all trade, and allowing him two-thirds of the "coomey" for his support, he would remain as King, and conduct the business of the country as formerly. Upon consideration, he answered he would do so.

The Chiefs were then asked if they would keep him as King upon these terms. They answered, they were tired of his rule, and did not wish him to remain King any longer, bringing a series of charges against him, such as oppression and tyranny.

The Consul then inquired whom they had appointed for his successor, if he was removed from being King, as he could not allow the country to remain without a headman. They answered, Prince Dappo, the son of an elder brother than Pepple, and the rightful heir. The Consul informed them he should draw up certain laws, restricting him from all trade, &c., allowing him two-thirds of the "coomey" for his support, and that his whole time must be given to governing the country; to all of which they were agreeable.

Upon Prince Dappo being proposed, Pepple claimed the protection of the Consul, and begged to be removed to Fernando Po, to which the Consul consented.

Shortly afterwards, the whole of the Chiefs said, that sooner than Pepple should be taken away, they would let him be King again. They also said they thought if he was taken away, the Eboe men would not pay either his debts or theirs. It was elicited from them that the chief reason they did not wish him to go was, that they might be called upon to pay his debts, and that it was contrary to their *jew-jew*. The Consul explained he was not taking him away, but allowing him to go at his own request. The Chiefs then retired to discuss, and afterwards said they did not care where Pepple went, if he paid his debts first.

The whole of this day and the 21st were devoted to hearing palavers, and going through the book.

On the 23rd, Pepple was pronounced deposed, and Prince Dappo formally elected King, under the title of King Dappo, the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Antelope" firing a salute of twenty-one guns.

The 24th and 25th were spent settling palavers at New Calabar, where a book was given by the Chiefs, promising to settle the Eganny trade in one month from the date, under heavy penalties. The presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England were refused to be delivered over to the King and Chiefs, upon proving that they had trafficked with the slaver captured by Her Majesty's ship "Ferret" in March last, and subsequently to the making of the Treaty.

The 26th, 27th, and 28th, were occupied in surveying and laying down buoys at the entrance of the Bonny.

Sunday, 29th.—Weighed at 3 P.M., and proceeded, and anchored in Clarence Cove at 10 A.M. next day, when Pepple and suite were landed. A smart tornado at the time. The remainder of the day was occupied in arranging for Pepple's accommodation, &c.

Tuesday, 31st.—The greater part of this day was spent in arranging some affairs with my own people. Embarked at 5:30 p.m., weighed at 6 o'clock, and shaped a course for Old Calabar.

Wednesday, February 1st.—Daylight, East Head, N.N.E. Anchored off Duke Town at 1:30 p.m. Found seven ships in the river. At 2:30 p.m. Commander Young and myself in his gig left for Creek Town, to call upon King Eyo, and to invite him on board Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope" the next day, to receive the last of his presents. He was very glad to see me. We remained with him half an hour. In returning to the steamer, we encountered a shower of rain, although it is the dry season. Arrived on board a little after sunset.

Thursday, 2nd.—6:30 a.m., went on shore, accompanied by Commander Young. Waited on Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, missionaries of the Scotch Presbyterian Church. They represented a few grievances under which they alleged they laboured, and Mr. Anderson was requested to be on board at 10 o'clock to meet the Chiefs, &c. The same message was sent to King Duke Ephraim and his Chiefs, with the intimation that, as they had no clock, a gun should be fired, and a flag hoisted at the fore to indicate the hour, particularly requesting them to be on board to time. Returned on board. 10 o'clock, King Eyo made his appearance in a ship's boat, canoes following with banners flying. The quarter-deck of the steamer was adorned with flags; he was much pleased with his reception. His presents were delivered to him. King Duke Ephraim did not come on board until near 12 o'clock, when I rebuked him severely in the presence of King Eyo and his Chiefs. His presents were delivered to him, and he returned to Duke Town immediately. King Eyo, with the masters and supercargoes, took luncheon on the quarter-deck. He left, with his Chiefs, at 2:30, with a salute of seven guns. 4 o'clock, visited Old Town; called upon Mr. and Mrs. Edgerley, Presbyterian missionaries. Saw Captain Calvert, master of the ship "Calabar," and his wife: he is indisposed. Mr. Edgerley complained to me of a man named Bundoo, one of Old Willy Tom's slaves, having insulted Mrs. Edgerley. We called on old Willy Tom. He was very sick, apparently not long for this world. Requested him to send Bundoo off to Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope," to have the matter investigated. Took our leave, and returned on board the steamer. Midnight, a passing shower of rain.

Friday, 3rd.—6:30, went on shore; took breakfast with Mr. and Mrs. Anderson at the mission-house, to be in readiness for the conference to be held in the school-room of the mission with the King and Chiefs, &c., at 10 o'clock. Circulars, giving intimation of the conference to be held, had been issued the previous evening. I was gratified in finding them all punctual in their attendance. Various palavers were entered into and discussed, the chief being the practice of infanticide, and the custom of human sacrifice, a Treaty providing for its abolishment having been signed by them two years ago; but there is too much reason to fear it is still done in secret. Another matter brought forward was the unlawful detention of boats and people from Fernando Po on frivolous pleas. I pointed out to the younger people the folly of allowing themselves to be led by the nose in their misdeeds by a few old fools, imbued with absurd superstitious notions—King Duke Ephraim being one of them. I rebuked him severely, and told him that he was unfit to rule, that he must reform and mend his ways. However, time, it is to be hoped, will do all: when the few old superstitious people now remaining go hence, there is every probability that the rising generation will throw to the winds those silly and cruel practices, the cause of unhappiness to thousands, and the curse and bane of their country. I fined a slave belonging to John Archibong, a Chief, 2,000 copper rods, for an assault on Mr. Edgerley; the fine was paid within two hours, to be appropriated for the benefit of the mission. The Court then adjourned, all apparently well satisfied. Took our leave of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Edgerley, &c., and returned on board.

Sunday, 5th.—Hazy. Made out Cape Cameroons, and stood for it. Anchored with Green Patch, north. Sent gig and cutter to sound. Weighed

and proceeded cautiously across the flats; picked up the boats, and anchored at 2 P.M. between Bell and Acqua towns. Mr. Blyth and Captain Kirby, from the hulk "Alexander Grant," visited us. In the course of the evening one of the Dido Town Chiefs came on board, anxious to know what palaver brought the steamer there. He left rather uneasy on hearing that King Pepple was at Fernando Po.

Monday, 6th.—Hazy. Visited the Baptist mission and the Acqua Town Chiefs; they looked solemn, and appeared to be in a very low key. Left them and returned on board. After breakfast Commander Young accompanied me on shore to call on King Bell. Talked over some palavers with him relative to the detention of boats and canoes. I told him that all such matters should be settled by a meeting of masters, supercargoes and Chiefs, the decision of such meeting being final, and the aggressor in all such cases fined five puncheons of good palm oil, according to Treaty. Judging from his talk, it would appear that there would be much difficulty in effecting this, from want of confidence in, and good feeling towards each other among the Chiefs. Took our leave and returned on board. After dinner Commander Young and myself visited Hickory, or Old Bell's Town; being near sunset, we were obliged to curtail our visit. The Chief Presso Bell is one of the best Chiefs in Cameroons.

Tuesday, 7th.—Daylight: cool and pleasant. 6:30 went on shore; visited the mission and the Chief of Acqua Town. In the afternoon Commander Young and myself visited Ned Dido's Town, called on Charles Dido, who had taken and detained a Krooboy from a Fernando Po boat. I rebuked him, and told him that the Chiefs, &c., ought to have fined him five puncheons of palm oil, but it was very evident to me, that the Chiefs being all as deep in the mud as he was in the mire, could not with the spirit of independence they ought to possess, meet, adjudicate, and enforce a penalty in such cases, for they have all, more or less, committed themselves by detaining slaves and canoes, and thus causing palavers to the great detriment of trade. He was inclined to be insolent. We walked to the beach; I demanded the Krooboy, and he was delivered up to me, telling me, at the same time, that he would not have given him up to any other person. They made a great clamour about the alleged detention of some of their people at Fernando Po, to which place they had gone as labourers on hire. I told them that all their people at Fernando Po were at perfect liberty to return, but that no force should be used to compel them to do so; that, very naturally, many preferred remaining there free, to returning to Cameroons and slavery; that they had better go over themselves and look after their people; advised them not to send over any more of them, and told them that during the whole time I had resided there, I had not once employed one Cameroon man or boy. I requested Charley and Ned Dido to come on board to-morrow at 10 o'clock, and took our leave.

Wednesday, 8th.—6:30, went on shore, and walked to Acqua Town; saw Dido and Tim Acqua, and desired them to be off at 10 o'clock. Returned on board. I then read the Commercial Treaty to them, the Treaty for the protection of missionaries, and the document granting a piece of ground for Christian interment. I then reminded them that they had broken the Treaty by the detention of canoes and boats, and by demanding coomey from ships not lying off their beach. I rebuked them, and strictly enjoined them not to allow these things to happen again. They promised that they should not. I told them I would come on shore at 5 o'clock, accompanied by Commander Young, and inspect the ground set apart for the interment of Christians; accordingly at that hour we went on shore with the Chiefs and Mr. Horton Johnson. They pointed out a thick bush called "jew-jew," which they gave to the mission to clear and inclose for the purpose before mentioned. I told them it would be a great benefit to the town and all concerned to have it cleared away; this, owing to some of their superstitious foibles, they said they dare not do. Took our leave, and returned on board.

Thursday, 9th.—6:30, Commander Young accompanied me on shore; met John Acqua (not present with the other Chiefs yesterday), Mr. Horton Johnson, and the Acqua Town Chiefs; they had commenced to clear away the bush, but

CLASS B.

were interfered with by John Acqua, who said he feared the mission would build houses upon the ground, and encroach on the road from the town to the beach. I found, however, that this matter could be easily arranged, if I would draw out a document to the effect that no houses should be built on the ground, that the land should not be appropriated to any other purpose whatever, save that of a Christian burial-yard, and that no encroachment whatever should be made on the road from the town to the beach, signed by Mr. Horton Johnson, the Chiefs of Acqua Town, and witnessed by myself. They all appeared pleased and satisfied. We took our leave and returned on board. Had a visit from all of them. 11 o'clock, just after she swung to the flood, weighed and proceeded; after passing Cape Cameroons, a strong sea-breeze. Anchored at 4.30 off Bimbia in four fathoms, about three miles from King William's Point. Declined going on shore until next morning at daylight.

Friday, 10th.—2 A.M., lightning, thunder, rain, and a smart breeze, which continued till 8 o'clock; declined visiting Bimbia at present. 9 o'clock, weighed and proceeded, and anchored in Clarence Cove at 2 o'clock. I landed at my island home shortly after.

Inclosure 2 in No. 48.

Chiefs and Traders in the River Bonny to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

WE, the Undersigned, Chiefs and traders in the River Bonny, beg most respectfully to lay before your notice a series of complaints, connected with aggressions and injustice towards us on the part of William Pepple, late King of this place :

1. There is an ancient custom, that when any person dies the King bestows a donation of cloth, &c. He takes advantage of this afterwards, and seizes upon all the effects of the party deceased, and if the head of a house, takes possession of all.

2. We object to his receiving the whole of the coomey and the compensation money from the Queen of England, as, previous to his being King, a portion of the coomey and other public monies was set aside for the exigencies of the country; instead of which he keeps all, thereby enabling him to send goods to all the markets at such prices as we are totally unfit to compete with, and seriously injuring the whole trade of the country. On several occasions, when representations have been made to him about the high prices his boys have been paying at the fair, the parties complaining have been imprisoned by him and mulcted in heavy fines. He has also frequently expressed his determination to suppress and ruin every house in the country, in order that he might have sole and uncontrolled power.

3. The last and most serious act of his, had we cooperated with him, would have been attended with total ruin to the country, as well as very serious and ruinous loss to the ships in the river. He induced us, by misrepresentations, to equip all our war canoes, to the number of forty-three (and at very large expense), for the purpose of paying a visit of ceremony to the Billa country, the birthplace of his mother, but on approaching New Calabar we suspected his motives were hostile to that country; subsequent events have proved this, and we refused to proceed, seeing too that we had no cause for going to war. On our return to Bonny the whole voice of the country called for his removal, and we accordingly declared him no longer King.

4. As we are anxious that the Court of Equity established here by you should be carried on as heretofore, we beg you to excuse us attending the house built by the white men, as, from its proximity to the King's, we consider our lives not safe while there, but will most willingly attend anywhere else when required, until this matter is satisfactorily arranged. And finally, we beg your assistance in removing him from this place, as we are fully determined that should he remain as King we will one and all leave the country, as we are quite

satisfied that fair and free trade cannot be carried on so long as he remains in power.

We remain, &c.
 (Signed) Annie Pepple }
 Prince Foobra }
 Manilla }
 Capt. Hart }
 Sonjoo Allison }
 Jack Brown }
 Foobra }
 Worrasoo }
 George Goodhead }
 Gogo Foobra }
 King Holliday }
 Boniface }
 Tom Brown }
 Charley Africa }
 for John }
 Tom Taylor }
 Jack Telefar }
 Oge Africa }
 Dick Telefar }
 Jack Wilson Pepple }
 } Their marks.

Inclosure 3 in No. 48.

King Pepple to the Captains and Supercargoes in the River Bonny.

Gentlemen,

King's House, Bonny, November 9, 1853.

I AM anxious to pay a visit to the Billa country, and shall feel much obliged if two or more captains or supercargoes will go with me in their boats as far as Calabar river, to invite King Amachree on board of my canoe, as I wish to see him and make him a small present.

This is a perfectly friendly invitation on my part, and if Amachree will not accept of it, I beg that one captain will remain at King Amachree's as a guarantee that he may come back safe. I intend to leave Bonny in four days, and I wish to return in four days from that time to Bonny. The Billa is the native country of my mother.

I remain, &c.
 (Signed) KING PEPPLE.

P.S.—I do not know when I shall leave Bonny, but when I do leave I shall return in four days. An answer will oblige as soon as convenient.

K. P.

Inclosure 4 in No. 48.

Proclamation.

I, John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, and Charles Henry Young, Captain of Her Britannic Majesty's steamer "Antelope," to our trusty and well-beloved friend Prince Dappo, greeting.

WHEREAS it having been deemed fit and expedient, for the benefit and welfare and safety of the country of Grand Bonny and people under the rule and government of King Pepple, and the better protection of legitimate trade,

that he, King Pepple, be deposed, which has been done by the voice of the Chiefs and people, and that our trusty and well-beloved friend Prince Dappo is proved to be the rightful heir, by being the son of an elder brother. We hereby do nominate and appoint the said Prince Dappo to be his successor, and reign instead of King Pepple, the ceremony being formally performed.

Court House, Grand Bonny, this 23rd day of January, 1854.

In our presence,
 (Signed) JOHN BEECROFT,
Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.
 CHARLES HENRY YOUNG,
Lieutenant Commanding Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope."

Inclosure 5 in No. 48.

Additional Articles to the Bonny Commercial Treaty,

IT having been deemed necessary for the welfare of the country to depose King Pepple and to elect a new King, Prince Dappo was declared King, and the following additions were made to the Commercial Treaty :

ARTICLE I.

That the newly-elected King, from this time henceforward, after paying his present debts, of which due notice must be given, shall not be allowed to trade, directly or indirectly (by giving trust to Bonny men), but that he shall receive two-thirds of the coomey of every ship coming to trade in the river for his support ; the other third to be placed on one side to go to the exigencies of the country ; each party contributing sufficient for the support of Pepple out of their shares, provided he is not possessed of sufficient means of his own. And further, should he, the King, be found trading, he shall be fined in his own portion of the first coomey that becomes due after the offence. And any person giving such information as shall lead to his conviction of having traded shall be entitled to one puncheon reward ; and should he show any resentful feeling, by committing any act of injustice or oppression upon the person giving such information, he shall be fined in a still larger amount at the option of the Court.

ARTICLE II.

That the King or Chiefs shall not be allowed to seize upon, confine, or oppress, or cause to be seized upon, confined, or oppressed, any trader, without first consulting, and with the sanction of, the Court. And further, that no Chief shall be allowed to seize upon the oil, or boys, of any trader so long as the said party owes debts to the ships. Should such an occurrence take place, the party so offending shall be fined for the first offence five puncheons of palm oil, and to be doubled upon a repetition of the offence.

ARTICLE III.

That the King or Chiefs shall not be allowed to go to war with any neighbouring country without informing the supercargoes of their reasons and necessity for so doing. And should it be thought necessary for them to do so, it is distinctly understood that all debts owing to the ships must be first paid, saving and excepting they are attacked by any other country, and obliged to defend themselves.

ARTICLE IV.

That the headmen, officers, and slaves of the deposed King who have been in the habit of trading hitherto, shall still be allowed to trade without hindrance or molestation, and with the same freedom as any other house in the Bonny.

ARTICLE V.

That all future meetings are distinctly understood to be held in the Court-house, built for that purpose; and after due notice has been given, any supercargo, king, chief, or trader being called upon and refusing to attend, except from illness or some other satisfactory reason, shall be fined in one puncheon of palm oil for every such offence.

ARTICLE VI.

That the King and Chiefs upon any decision of the Court as to fines, or placing any offending party under arrest, must be responsible to the Court that those fines are produced within the time fixed upon; and it is to be understood that all fines are wholly and solely the property of the Court, until the present debts upon the house are liquidated, after which time one-half will be used at the discretion of the Court, and the other half to the public funds of the country along with the coomeys, &c.

ARTICLE VII.

As a number of buoys are about to be placed in the approaches to Bonny, we shall hold the King and Chiefs of Bonny responsible for any acts of wilful damage they may receive. And as an act of encouragement to the pilots, should the master of any vessel enter or leave the river upon his own responsibility, and without requiring their services, they shall be entitled to one-half pilotage. Should they be required and attend, they shall be entitled to the whole pilotage as formerly; but if refusing to attend when called upon, they shall lose all claim upon the vessel, and be subject to such other penalties as the Court may decide upon.

ARTICLE VIII.

That in the event of any difficulty arising from unforeseen circumstances, or such as we have not had brought under our notice, before we may be empowered to draw out such fresh clauses as may be deemed necessary, and which being approved of and signed by Her Majesty's Consul, may be considered as the laws of the country.

ARTICLE IX.

That in the event of any disturbance arising in the Eboo or other place, that injures our trade, and over which we have no control, it shall be the King's duty, assisted by his Chiefs, to immediately send up and take such steps as may be considered requisite for its settlement.

ARTICLE X.

That Yaniboo and Ishaca from this time henceforward are to be considered Chiefs of Bonny, and take their parts accordingly.

ARTICLE XI.

That upon the arrival of any ship, the King (not being allowed to trade) requiring certain articles for his own personal use, the supercargo and himself

shall be at liberty to arrange the matter, the King allowing the amount to be deducted from his coomey.

(Signed)

King Dappo's	XX	mark.
Annie Pepple's	XX	"
Captain Hart's	XX	"
Manilla Pepple's	XX	"
Sonjoo Allison's	XX	"
Jack Brown's	XX	"
Foobra's	XX	"
Worrasoo's	XX	"
Boniface's	XX	"
Gogo Foobra's	XX	"
George Goodhead's	XX	"
Tom Taylor's	XX	"
Tom Brown's	XX	"
Oge Africa's	XX	"
Charley Africa's	XX	"
Jack Wilson Pepple's	XX	"
King Holliday's boy's	XX	mark, he being sick.
Ishaka's	XX	"
Jack Telefar's	XX	"
Dick Telefar's	XX	"

Court House, Grand Bonny, this 23rd day of January, 1854.

(Signed)

John Beecroft, *Her Britannic Majesty's Consul.*
 Charles Henry Young, *Lieutenant, Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
 J. H. W. Bowman, *Clerk, in charge of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope."*
 Chas. Caine, *ship "Africa."*
 Thos. F. Stowe, *"Saracen."*
 E. Wylie, *Agent for C. Horsfall & Co.*
 Thomas Gregory, *Chairman, "Princess Royal."*
 F. Grant, *"Hero."*
 J. A. Ward, *"St. Andrew."*
 R. E. Birkett, *St. Lawrence."*
 Thos. Starker, *"Lady of the Lake."*
 R. Richards, *Surgeon, barque "St. Lawrence."*

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE XII.

Any King, Chief, trader, or boy, coming armed to the Court-house, or attended by armed followers, or keeping armed followers in the neighbourhood of the Court, during any meeting, shall be heavily fined in fifty puncheons of palm oil, in equal proportions from the King and Chiefs, and will also seriously incur the displeasure of Her Majesty's Representatives.

Inclosure 6 in No. 48.

The Masters and Supercargoes in the New Calabar River to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

New Calabar River, January 24, 1854.

WE, the Undersigned, respectfully solicit your interference for the settlement of a long-standing dispute of most serious detriment to the general interests of trade between the Long Brass, generally known as the Eganny, and the New Calabar Chiefs, or rather the two factions of the New Calabar Town, one side being willing and anxious for an amicable adjustment, whilst the other has as stubbornly opposed it unless upon their own terms.

We are, &c.

(Signed)

THOS. F. STONE.
 E. GOLDSTONE.
 E. W. THOMPSON.
 THOMAS GREGORY.
 R. E. BIRKETT.

Inclosure 7 in No. 48.

Paper signed by the King and Chiefs of New Calabar.

WE the Undersigned, King and Chiefs of New Calabar, do faithfully promise Her Majesty's Consul, John Beecroft, Esquire, that we will settle the dispute between the Eganny country and ourselves, and cause the trade to be opened as formerly, within the space of one month from this date, or forfeit five puncheons of good palm oil.

Dated in New Calabar river, on board Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope," this twenty-fifth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

(Signed)					
King Amacree	X	} Their marks.	Warmate	X	} Their marks.
Prince Will	XX		Quaker	XX	
Will Barboy	XX		Standfast Jack	XX	
Harry Braid	XX		Yellow Duke	XX	
George Amacree	XX		Big Fogolo	XX	
Battabo	XX		Jungo	XX	
West India	XX		Jack Rich	XX	
Manuel	XX		Tom Lawson	XX	
Big Harry	XX		Don Pedro	XX	
Young Harry	XX		Dick Barboy	XX	
George Will	XX		Young Annie	XX	
George Goodhead	XX		Duke Mornae	XX	
Foobra Amacree	XX		Tiger Amacree	XX	
Young Braid	X				

Witnesses to signatures :

(Signed) John Beecroft, *Her Majesty's Consul.*
 C. H. Young, *Lieutenant, Commanding Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope."*
 Thomas Gregory.
 R. E. Birkett.
 F. Grant.
 E. Goldstone.
 Thos. F. Stone.
 J. Warde.
 E. W. Thompson.
 J. A. Christie.
 Chas. Caine.
 Charles Perry.

Inclosure 8 in No 48.

Declaration.

I, THE lawful successor of the late King Archibong I, of Calabar, do hereby agree to all the Articles and conditions contained in a Treaty made on the 6th day of December, 1841, by William Simpson Blount, Esquire, Lieutenant commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Pluto," on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and King Eyamba.

In testimony thereof, I have this day signed the present document, to be appended to that Treaty, in the presence of John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, and the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed.

Done at Duke Town, Old Calabar, this 2nd day of February, 1854.

(Signed) KING DUKE EPHRAIM.

Witnesses :

(Signed) J. H. W. BOWMAN, *Clerk in Charge of Her Majesty's steamer "Antelope."*
 EDWD. H. POWELL.

Inclosure 9 in No. 48.

Declaration.

I, KING PEPPLE, of the River Bonny, do hereby declare that the proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between myself and Captain Thomas Rodney Eden, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the King's House, River Bonny, this 23rd day of January, 1854.
(Signed) KING PEPPLE.

Witnesses:

(Signed) THOMAS GREGORY.
F. GRANT.
R. E. BIRKETT.
CHAS. CAINE.
J. A. WARDE.
THOS. F. STONE.
E. WYLIE.

Inclosure 10 in No. 48.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River Bonny, or been carried on in any way, from or through the territory of King Pepple, since the date of the Agreement concluded with him by Captain Thomas Rodney Eden, of the "Amphitrite," in November 1848.

(Signed) THOMAS GREGORY.
J. A. WARDE.
CHAS. CAINE.
F. GRANT.
E. WYLIE.
THOS. F. STONE.
R. E. BIRKETT.

Inclosure 11 in No. 48.

List of Presents.

A LIST of goods composing the third annual gift of presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England to King Pepple, of the River Bonny, delivered by Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, on the 23rd January, 1854, according to the stipulation of the Treaty of the 21st November, 1848.

355 guns, in 18 cases.
100 half-barrels powder.
10,000 musket-flints, in 10 kegs.

(Signed) KING PEPPLE.

Inclosure 12 in No. 48.

List of Presents.

A LIST of goods composing the fifth and last annual gift of presents from Her Majesty the Queen of England to King Eyo and Duke Ephraim, of the River Old Calabar, delivered by Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra,

on the 2nd February, 1854, according to the stipulation of the Treaty of the 6th December, 1841, and its Additional Articles of the 30th November, 1842.

80 cases containing brass rods, 3 ft. = 8,000 lbs. = 5,600.
100 half-barrels powder.
1 hide, tanned.

Equal part to each.

(Signed)

KING EYO HONESTY.
KING DUKE EPHRAIM.

Inclosure 13 in No. 48.

Declaration.

I, KING EYO, of Creek Town, of the River Old Calabar, do hereby declare that the proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between myself and Lieutenant W. S. Blount, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the King's House, Creek Town, Old Calabar, this 2nd day of February, 1854.

(Signed)

KING EYO HONESTY.

Witnesses :

(Signed)

JOHN STEANE MORGAN, "*Lady Head.*"
EDWD. H. POWELL.

Inclosure 14 in No. 48.

Declaration.

I, DUKE EPHRAIM, of the River Old Calabar, do hereby declare that the proclamation named in the 1st Article of a Treaty between my predecessor, King Eyamba, and Lieutenant W. S. Blount, on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, has been duly issued, and the laws therein mentioned strictly and fully enforced.

Given at the Duke's House, River Old Calabar, this 2nd day of February, 1854.

(Signed)

KING DUKE EPHRAIM.

Witnesses :

(Signed)

JOHN STEANE MORGAN, "*Lady Head.*"
EDWD. H. POWELL.

Inclosure 15 in No. 48.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River Old Calabar, or been carried on in any way from or through the territory of King Eyo, of Creek Town, since the date of the Agreement concluded with him by Lieutenant W. S. Blount, of the "*Pluto,*" in December 1841.

(Signed)

JOHN STEANE MORGAN,
"*Lady Head.*"
JOSEPH CUTHBERTSON,
"*Elizabeth Bibby.*"

Old Calabar, February 2, 1854.

CLASS B.

Inclosure 16 in No. 48.

Certificate.

WE, the Undersigned, do certify that to the best of our knowledge and belief, no Slave Trade has existed in the River of Old Calabar, or been carried on in any way from or through the territory of Duke Ephraim, since the date of the Agreement concluded with his predecessor, King Eyamba, by Lieutenant W. S. Blount, of the "Pluto," in December 1841.

(Signed)

JOHN STEANE MORGAN,
"Lady Head."
JOSEPH CUTHBERTSON,
"Elizabeth Bibby."

Old Calabar, February 2, 1854.

No. 49.

Consul Beecroft to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 25, 1854.

I BEG leave to remind your Lordship, that although in accordance with the stipulation granting to King Pepple, of Bonny, a yearly subsidy, in consideration of his signing the Treaty for the Suppression of the Foreign Slave Trade should have terminated last year, that there are still two years' presents remaining due to him.

And, if your Lordship should think fit so to direct, there will be one year's presents* due to Ammacree of New Calabar, in addition to the presents I have now withheld, pending your Lordship's instructions.

I have &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

No. 50.

Consul Beecroft to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, March 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith an Additional Article to the Slave Trade Treaty with Bonny, of the 21st November, 1848, signed by King Pepple's successor.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BEECROFT.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Agreement.

I, THE lawful successor of the late deposed King Pepple of Grand Bonny, do hereby agree to all the articles and conditions contained in a Treaty, made on the 21st day of November, 1848, by Thomas Rodney Eden, Esquire, Captain of Her Majesty's ship "Amphitrite," on the part of Her Majesty the Queen of England, and King Pepple. In testimony thereof, I have this day signed the

* That is to say, the second present, due in August 1853, three annual presents having been promised by the Treaty of August 1851.

present document to be appended to that Treaty, in the presence of John Beecroft, Esquire, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Biafra, and the witnesses whose names are hereunto subscribed.

Done at the Court House, Grand Bonny, this 28th day of January, 1854.

(Signed) KING ^{his} DAPPO.
mark.
JOHN BEECROFT.

Witnesses :

(Signed) THOMAS GREGORY.
CHARLES CAINE.
R. E. BIRKETT.
H. STEWART.
E. WYLIE.

No. 51.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of February last, inclosing a journal of your proceedings from the 18th of January to the 10th of February, whilst visiting various rivers in the Bight of Biafra, and reporting the circumstances under which you had thought it necessary to withhold the first of the three annual presents promised to King Ammacree of New Calabar, by the Treaty of August 8, 1851.

I have read your journal with much interest, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as reported therein.

I have also to express my approval of your having, in consequence of King Ammacree's violation of the Treaty of 1851, in the matter of the slave-vessel "*Restaurada*," withheld the present due to that Chief.

You will retain in your possession the articles composing that present, until you shall be satisfied that Ammacree is fairly entitled to receive it, and when that time comes, you will report to me what articles should be sent for his second and third presents.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 52.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th of February last, stating that the fourth and fifth annual presents due to Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny, have not yet been sent out to you for delivery to that Chief; and I have in reply to desire that you will inform me of what articles the presents in question should consist, in order that they may be prepared and forwarded to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 53.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of depositions made before me, relative to a slaver which ran into the River Bonny, with copies of the documents mentioned therein.

Captain R. E. Birkett, who makes the first deposition, is at present

master of the ship "Belle," of Liverpool, belonging to Messrs. Hatton and Cookson, Mersey-street, Liverpool, and is now on his passage to that place.

Captain Hemingway mentioned in that deposition, is supercargo of the ship "Roderick Dhu," and trading for the firm of Messrs. Stuart and Douglas, Liverpool. He has had the schooner repaired, put cargo in her, and sent her away; her destination is supposed to be the River Brass or River Benin. She is under the command of the sailing-master, or mate (Mr. McTaggart), of the "Roderick Dhu," and the surgeon of the same vessel is supposed to be supercargo.

It appears, my Lord, to be a case requiring a very strict investigation, Captain Hemingway having apparently acted in defiance of all law and justice; it also tends very much to decrease the estimation in which the white men are held by the natives, when any one thus openly takes away property in charge of a second party, and that property for the British Government, and under the charge of a British subject.

The original depositions, documents, flag, and keys, have been delivered up to Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Pluto," in this place, who will forward them to Commander Miller, senior officer in the Bight of Benin.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 53.

Depositions of Captain Birkett and others.

[See Class A, Inclosure 3 in No. 119.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 53.

Paper authorizing Captain Birkett to take possession of the "Mercedita."

CONSTA por esta como yo B. Gonsales, amo de la goleta Espanola "Mercedita" entrando en esta puerto en necesidad sin anclas y bleno de aqua pues saliendo de la barra enbarrancamos y soldamente per salbar la vida hubimos tiempo de entrar al puerto y atracarla atierra y como no teniamos bote pues la gente abia abandona el buque y se abian ydo a la playa me fue preciso acer entrege al primer y solo Capitan Baguet como si fuera un barco de guerra o Consul Ynges y al mismo tiempo pedirle el ausilio para que me llevase a su bordo pues no tenia seguridad de ninguna clase.

(Signed) BENTURA GONSALES, *Capitan.*
JOSSE CARERA.

Rio de Benis, 26 de Junio, 1854.

Witness to the signature of Captain Bentura Gonsales:

(Signed) R. RICHARDS, *Surgeon to the ship "Belle."*

Inclosure 3 in No. 53.

Declaration of Supercargo and Captain of the "Mercedita," and Inventory of Goods.

[See Class A, Inclosure 2 in No. 119.]

No. 54.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of June last, approving of the late Consul Beecroft's proceedings in the rivers, as reported in his despatch of the 20th of February last.

The presents for Ammacree, of New Calabar, will be detained here for further instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

No. 55.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th June last, relative to the presents due to Pepple, ex-King of Bonny; and to state, in reply to your Lordship's desire, that Pepple wishes guns and powder, in equal proportions, for the presents now due.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

No. 56.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, August 7, 1854.

IN the late Consul Beecroft's despatch to your Lordship, dated February 20, 1854, relating his proceedings in the adjacent rivers, your Lordship will observe that he gave King Pepple, who had been deposed in the River Bonny, a passage to this place at his own request.

I beg to inclose herewith a despatch from the Court of Equity established in the River Bonny, and a letter, written at the request of the King and Chiefs, addressed to the late Consul, in answer to inquiries he had made if the King and Chiefs were averse to Pepple's return to the Billa country, the birthplace of his mother.

His (King Pepple's) solicitations to me to be allowed to return to the River Bonny are incessant, and, not being complied with, he has imbibed the idea that he is a prisoner here, and my endeavours to appease him are fruitless.

I am led to believe that his means for the sustenance of himself and servants are small, and he has not received any part of the promised allowance for his maintenance in this place.

Under these circumstances, my Lord, I most respectfully request that your Lordship will inform me what steps I should take, either in detaining him here, or allowing him to go wheresoever he chooses.

Should your Lordship consider it necessary, for the safety of the trade and British property in the River Bonny, that he should not be allowed to return to the River Bonny, or any part of the continent of Africa, I would beg leave to suggest to your Lordship that he be removed from this Colony, as the means of communication to that river are very frequent, and he might use these means in such a manner as to cause a civil rebellion among the Bonny people, through some of his friends in that place.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 56.

The Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny, to Consul Beecroft.

Sir,

Court House, Bonny River, April 20, 1854.

IN answer to your communication per mail and "Celma" respecting Pepple's going to Billa, we have held two meetings of King and Chiefs, at both of which they expressed their decided objection to his going, or even returning here.

They said the country was peaceable; that they were making amicable arrangements with fresh trading-places in the interior, and everything going on well; that his return to either place would upset all, and that, instead of the whole of the canoes and boys going to the fair, as now, every trader would keep back one-half to protect himself and the town. They are very much against it.

With respect to the expenses, we beg to remind you of your promise to let us and the King and Chiefs know what Pepple took away with him. They desire this very much, as it is their opinion he has plenty of means (if not with him), and they say that their agreement to support him was entirely contingent on his not being able to do it himself; should this be the case, they will willingly pay sooner than have him back.

The Calabar men also strongly object to his going to Billa. They wish to be on friendly terms with Bonny.

(Signed)

F. GRANT, *Chairman.*

J. A. WARDE.

R. E. BIRKETT.

E. WYLIE.

THOMAS GREGORY.

THOS. F. STONE.

CHAS. CAINE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 56.

Captain Warde to Consul Beecroft.

Dear Sir,

Bonny, April 21, 1854.

I HAVE been requested by the King and Chiefs to address you, apart from the official communication you will receive from us in reply to your question as to whether the ex-King Pepple may return to Billa, or elsewhere on the continent of Africa.

They say his sole object in wishing to come back is for the purpose of intrigue, to create disturbance and mischief with the neighbouring States, and to interrupt the trade of the river; and should such an occurrence take place, they would be necessitated to keep half their canoes and men from the fairs, for defence, and the traffic of the river would suffer much in consequence. They therefore implore you not on any account to permit him to land on any part of the continent.

They wish me also to inform you that negotiations are going on between themselves and New Calabar, for the purpose of establishing permanent peace between them; and should Pepple return, all such arrangements would cease. I may also add that the King and Chiefs of New Calabar express extreme aversion to his return.

You will doubtless remember, when King Pepple was deposed, it was stated that it would meet with the decided opposition of the natives of Eboe; as a proof that such is not the case, the King of the principal State in the interior (Ahombala) is at present in Bonny, seeking friendly relations with the King and Chiefs.

I remain, &c.

(Signed)

J. A. WARDE.

We, the Undersigned, King and Chiefs of Bonny, hereby certify that the

inclosed letter was written to you by Captain John A. Warde, at our request, and that it expresses our wishes to you in detail.

(Signed)	KING DAPPO	XX	} Their marks.
	ANNE PEPPLE	XX	
	CAPT. HART	XX	
	SUNJEW ALLISON	XX	
	BLACK FOOBRA	XX	
	WARRISOO	XX	

No. 57.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting-Consul Lysslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your two despatches of the 7th of August,* requesting instructions as to what steps should be taken with regard to Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny river, who accompanied Mr. Beecroft to Fernando Po in January last; and stating that Pepple wishes to receive guns and powder in equal quantities, in discharge of the fourth and fifth annual presents remaining due to him from Her Majesty's Government under the Treaty of the 21st of November, 1848.

I have to state to you in reply, that it is, of course, desirable that Pepple should, if possible, be prevented from returning to the River Bonny, or going to any place from whence he might find means of disturbing the peace of his former territory. And I have to suggest, with this view, that you should assign to the ex-King some place of residence sufficiently remote from the Bonny, and that you should require him to engage to remain there under pain of incurring the displeasure of Her Majesty's Government if he should fail to do so. You will also inform the ex-King that if he undertakes to accept this engagement, and if he faithfully observes it, Her Majesty's Consul at Fernando Po will be authorised to pay to him, by instalments, in money, the sum of 4,000 dollars, which is the amount of the two annual presents remaining due to him. You will at the same time state to him that Her Majesty's Government consider that muskets and gunpowder will not be suitable articles to be given to him in his present position.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 58.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd of October last, respecting the two annual presents remaining due to Pepple, the ex-King of the Bonny river, I have to acquaint you that the Lords of the Treasury have concurred in my proposal that these presents should be paid in money, and not in muskets or gunpowder; and I have to inform you that you will be at liberty to pay to Pepple, by instalments, the 4,000 dollars due to him, and to reimburse yourself by drawing bills accordingly, at thirty days' sight, upon the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 55 and 56.

No. 59.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, November 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd October, relative to the ex-King Pepple.

In reply thereto, I beg to inform your Lordship that I will be able to give a final reply to that despatch per next mail, as I have not received any answer from ex-King Pepple to your Lordship's proposal.

I have further to inform your Lordship that Commodore Adams is expected here daily, when I will request that a small steamer may be placed at my service, for the purpose of visiting the rivers.

I again beg to assure your Lordship that every exertion will be used here for the continuance of the duties of Her Majesty's Consulate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, December 30, 1854.

I BEG to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch addressed by me to Commodore Adams, Commander-in-chief, &c., relative to ex-King Pepple.

Having consulted with Commodore Adams as to the best place to which he could be removed, we both considered that the Island of Ascension was a most suitable place for his residence, being a British Colony, and from which he could have no communication with the River Bonny, his former territory.

On the 5th instant I informed the ex-King of this decision, in a despatch a copy of which I beg to inclose.

Commodore Adams had given Commander Clavering, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Pluto," instructions to receive the ex-King and suite on board for passage to Ascension.

Early on the morning of the 7th, the ex-King's wife reported that Pepple had disappeared during the night; that his hat and stick were found on the road leading to Goderich Bay, and that she was of opinion he had committed suicide by drowning himself. I immediately got a number of Kroomen, and searched the bush and the bay, but could get no tidings of him; his wife and female servants were apparently in great grief, crying and howling much for his loss. Two boats had gone out of this harbour during the night; and supposing that he might have taken passage in one of them, I wrote to Commander Clavering that I considered it would be advisable to proceed in search of the boats. Steam was got up, and I proceeded with them; we soon found the boats, but Pepple was not there.

As I felt confident that the ex-King had not committed the crime of self-destruction, I summoned his male servants, and by threatening them with imprisonment, &c., they said if I gave them some men they would show where he was. Constables and Kroomen were provided, and the boys led the way into the bush for about two and a-half miles, where the ex-King was found sitting under the shade of two trees, surrounded with thick brushwood. I have sent my palanquin to carry him in, as he is now unable to walk far. On his being brought to me, I allowed him one hour to change his clothing, and then to embark on board the "Pluto," and he went on board before sunset.

On inquiry, I found that he had been misinformed about Ascension, viz., that he would have to purchase water at a high rate, and that provisions were equally high. On my explaining to him that, during the passage, and on his arrival there, every attention would be paid to him, and that he would have one of Commodore Adams' houses to reside in, he was perfectly satisfied, and quite willing to accede to my wishes.

He earnestly requested that I would give him a document stating how he

was to receive his 4,000 dollars. I furnished him with one, a copy of which I beg to inclose.

I also beg leave to inclose copies of two letters I received from him on the 8th instant, previous to sailing.

He was very anxious for his wife Allapoota, and servants, to accompany him; his wife was afraid to go, for fear she could not return here again if she wished. I gave her and the servants a document, requesting the commanders of Her Majesty's ships to give her a passage here if she wished it.

I also beg leave to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch I have addressed to the chairman and members of the Court of Equity, Bonny, relative to the ex-King's annual allowance of 300*l.* sterling.

I hope, my Lord, that my proceedings in this case will meet your approval, it being very necessary that the ex-King Pepple should be removed some distance from his former territory; and I do not hesitate in saying that if he is kept at Ascension, a flourishing trade will take place in the River Bonny.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to Commodore Adams.

Sir,

Fernando Po, December 4, 1854.

I BEG to inclose herewith a copy of a despatch addressed by me to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, relative to ex-King Pepple, at present residing here, with a copy of a despatch from the Foreign Office, in answer thereto.

On a recent occasion a boy of Pepple's went to Bonny, and was the means of creating a disturbance which stopped the trade for ninety-six days, to the severe loss of the shipping.

The proximity of this place to the River Bonny, renders the ex-King's residence here very undesirable, and I propose that he be removed to Ascension, as a more secure place, and from which he can hold no communication with Bonny.

I shall be glad to have your opinion, if my proposal meets your approval.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to Ex-King Pepple.

Sir,

Fernando Po, December 5, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in which it is stated that it is desirable to prevent your returning to the River Bonny, and that I am to appoint you a place of residence.

As a British Colony is much more desirable for your residence than this, a Spanish Colony, I have consulted with Commodore Adams, Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces on this coast, and have come to the conclusion that the Island of Ascension is much more suitable for your residence, from its healthy qualities and distance from your former territory, than any place on this coast.

I have therefore to request that yourself, wife, and servants, with your property, be prepared to embark from this place, in Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Pluto," for the above-named island, on Thursday the 7th instant at noon.

On your arrival there, Commodore Adams has very kindly promised to let you have his house for a residence.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

CLASS B.

Inclosure 3 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to Ex-King Pepple.

Sir,

Fernando Po, December 8, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that the sum of 4,000 dollars, two years' annual presents, now due you by Her Majesty's Government, under Treaty of the 21st November, 1848, will be paid to you by instalments, should you conduct yourself to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government during your residence in Ascension.

I have also to inform you that your annual allowance of 300*l.* sterling, by the King and Chiefs of the River Bonny, shall be duly handed over to you, and for which I shall make due application, by the first vessel leaving here for that place.

As the goods sent from Bonny for the above amount will not be suitable for sale at Ascension, you will please to inform me whom you commission to dispose of them on their arrival here.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. W. B. LYNFLAGER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 60.

Ex-King Pepple to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

"Pluto," Clarence, Fernando Po, December 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I am now going to Ascension by your order as a British Consul; and if it happen that I died at Ascension or anywhere else, my body must be secured in a rum cask and taken to Bonny, and be buried near my father's grave by the Government; and if I am spared to return all is right; but I beg that you not lose this memorandum: it must be shown to any that are concerned in the matter; but I trust it your care, for I have offended against the Queen or either British subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PEPPLÉ.

Inclosure 5 in No. 60.

Ex-King Pepple to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

"Pluto," Fernando Po, December 8, 1854.

I HAVE to request you will be pleased to let me know what space of time the sum of 4,000 dollars is to be paid me in, as it has been due now some time.

With respect to the annual payment of 300*l.*, it is my request that Mr. J. W. B. Lynslager, Acting British Consul at Fernando Po, will enforce the same; also if J. W. B. Lynslager will be kind enough to dispose of the goods sent from Bonny to the best advantage.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PEPPLÉ, his mark.

I also wish you to send for my son, Prince George Pepple, from Bonny, and then forward him to Ascension, as it is my intention to educate him.

I wish to have some arrangements also respecting my provisions, as I cannot live upon salt meat, it not agreeing with my complaint.

Inclosure 6 in No. 60.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Chairman and Members of the Court of Equity, Bonny.

Gentlemen,

Fernando Po, December 12, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you, that having received instructions from Her Majesty's Government that it was desirable to prevent ex-King Pepple's return to the River Bonny, and that I was to appoint him a place of residence, I consulted with Commodore Adams, Commander-in-chief, &c. &c., and came to the conclusion that the Island of Ascension was the most suitable place for his residence, and he, with his wife and servants, accordingly embarked in Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Pluto," which left here on the 8th instant for that place.

I have therefore to request that you will in future transmit to me the goods for the annual amount of the allowance to the ex-King Pepple, as I am authorized by him to receive them, and forward the amount to Ascension.

I hope that, as Pepple is now removed to a place where he can have no communication with the Bonny, his allowance will be punctually paid to me, so that I may transmit him the money.

Previous to Pepple's leaving here, he desired that I would send his son, Prince George Pepple, to Ascension, as he wished to educate him. I will thank you to inform the boy of this, and if he is willing to go, to send him over here, when I will obtain a passage for him in one of Her Majesty's ships.

I intend visiting you next month, in one of Her Majesty's steam-vessels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

No. 61.

The Earl of Clarendon to Acting-Consul Lynslager.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of December last, reporting the measures taken by you for the removal of ex-King Pepple from Fernando Po, and his departure for the Island of Ascension, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as stated in that despatch.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 62.

Acting-Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 29.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, February 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th December, 1854, relative to the payment of the 4,000 dollars due to the ex-King Pepple.

I beg leave to state that I will await an answer from your Lordship to my despatch of the 30th December, relating my proceedings in that instance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Sherbro River.*

No. 63.

*Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 6.)**Government House, Freetown, Sierra Leone,
September 2, 1854.*

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 11th of March last,* which, however, for some reason unknown to me, did not reach me until the 24th of August last.

In reply to your Lordship's just observations, I do myself the honour to state that at the time that I solicited and was happy in obtaining your Lordship's sanction for my employment of my boatmen, I had not contemplated any such employment, either of them or of myself, as the inspection of canoes suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade. The object which I had, and in which your Lordship concurred, I have steadily pursued, in personally visiting the various parts of my Consular district: but when I found that the Slave Trade was being revived in that district, and found, from frequent communication which it was my privilege to hold with the Governor of Sierra Leone, that his Excellency's views were entirely coincident with my own; knowing also that the Treaty of 1849 with the Chiefs of Sherbro, to which, as your Lordship is aware, the sanction of Her Majesty the Queen has been given, clothed his Excellency the Governor with power to provide for the detention and seizure of canoes prosecuting the Slave Trade; when, too, I ascertained that the regulations obtaining in the squadron did not permit of any of the ships or their boats being employed in the Sherbro Lagoon or its tributaries, at the very time that the native slave-dealers were most actively prosecuting their business; I candidly confess to your Lordship that I felt, under these circumstances, that, in view of the Treaty, and under the exigencies of the case, I should have been derelict to the responsibilities of my position, and faithless to the claims of humanity, if I were to be deterred by any mere apprehension of personal danger from using every means in my power, even to the seizure of canoes having slaves in, to enforce the observance of the Treaty.

Had I, however, my Lord, felt that the whole body of the native Chiefs did not quite expect that I would exercise such a function; or could I, from what I knew, suspect that they or any of them would question my right to do so, and that it was consequently likely to involve me in disputes with the Sherbro Chiefs, and so embarrass Her Majesty's Government; I trust your Lordship will believe that I should not have ventured so to take the course which, until I received your Lordship's despatch, I felt it my duty to follow, aiming to justify the humane purposes of Her Majesty's Government in entering into the Treaty under which I am residing in the Sherbro.

I have above advised your Lordship of my having had the privilege to be in frequent communication with his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone upon the subject of the revival of the Slave Trade in the Sherbro. I do myself the honour to report to your Lordship that, acting under the authority of a Deputation of Vice-Admiralty from his Excellency, I captured on the night of the 12th of August last, two native canoes containing 89 slaves; and that,

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 75.

with his Excellency's concurrence, as no assistance was afforded by the Commodore for their transport hither, I left the *Sherbro* with the slaves on the 28th ultimo, and arrived here in safety, after a boisterous passage, on the 31st ultimo.

While I humbly hope for the expression of your Lordship's satisfaction that it has thus been my privilege to convey liberty to so many captives, I beg to assure your Lordship that I will in future faithfully obey your Lordship's direction, that it is no part of my duty personally to capture canoes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

No. 64.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hanson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, reporting that you had on the 12th August, under authority from the Governor of Sierra Leone, captured in the *Sherbro* river two canoes with 89 slaves on board. And I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having made this capture under the instructions of the Governor of Sierra Leone.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 65.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Victoria, Sherbro Island, December 31, 1854.

IN reporting to your Lordship upon the condition of the Slave Trade in the *Sherbro*, I do myself the honour to refer to the opinion I ventured to express in my despatch of the 31st December, 1853,* viz., "that the transport of slaves by canoe through these waters from the Gallinas to the neighbourhood of the Colony of Sierra Leone is still continued."

During the year just closing, some sixty canoes capable of carrying, on the average, at least, 40 slaves each, are known to have come into the Boom, the Jong, and the Kittam rivers for slaves. Of the whole number, probably some twenty have left with their human cargoes; and with the exception, I believe, of four—the two I captured, and two taken, as I am informed, by officers of the Colony of Sierra Leone, acting under Commission of the Governor—the whole number have escaped; and thus, in the very centre of the British influence on this coast, and as if in mockery of the efforts of Her Majesty's Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade, some 600 or 700 of slaves have, so far, been taken from this region during the year. Most of the remaining canoes have their cargoes purchased, and will, no doubt, be passing with them very shortly.

Until recently a panic seems to have prevented any attempt to return with their cargoes; as I am informed that, after the capture of the two canoes by me, the feeling became very general that their chances of escaping capture were very straitened, the more especially so as they well knew that those canoes were fully armed and manned by a crew who expressed their determination to fight their way through. It appears, however, that they are now fully aware that no more attempts at seizure will be made here; and as they are confident of succeeding in the open sea in eluding the vigilance of Her Majesty's ships, numbers are, I hear, preparing to leave. The probability, therefore, is, my Lord, that about 2,400 slaves have been purchased in the last twelve months to be passed through this Lagoon from its tributaries, to the Mellacorree, the Pongas, and other rivers to the northward.

I have taken care, acting on your Lordship's instructions, to communicate

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 74.

what I have learned of the movements of the remaining canoes in a letter I have addressed "to the Commander of any of Her Majesty's ships, or to the Senior Naval Officer at Sierra Leone." I cannot refrain, my Lord, from expressing the hope that some efficient steps will be taken to put an end to this canoe-transport Slave Trade, as unless, or until, that is done, the Sherbro can never cease to be a source and the scene of trouble; for I need not apprise your Lordship that the presence of the slave-dealer is sure to originate slave hunts, and to foment internecine strifes, and that so long as those civil wars and those slave hunts are even liable of occurrence, so certainly will this productive region be devastated; and so surely also will the lives and properties of Her Majesty's subjects here be liable to spoliation, and the prestige and power of Her Majesty's Government be laid open to the contempt of insolent and worthless marauders.

It grieves me to have to report to your Lordship, and I believe your Lordship will be pained to learn, that during the year I have had to send two Slave Trade cases, one of direct slave-dealing, and one of pawn-taking on the part of liberated Africans from Sierra Leone, to his Excellency Governor Kennedy. A third case, which I reported to the Governor, was equally conclusive of the guilt of the accused; but the pawn (who was himself my informant) was tampered with in Freetown, and the case was not proceeded with. Information was also obtained by me of two other alleged cases of pawn-taking which I also duly communicated to the Governor.

I trust, however, my Lord, that it will not be concluded from these facts, that, after all, the enemies of negro emancipation are in the right; and that the philanthropy of England is wasted upon unworthy objects; for "the slaves of to-day would, should opportunity present, be all the slave-holders of to-morrow."

I am not aware, my Lord, that, during the year, any foreign slave-dealers have visited the Sherbro. Last June, however, Don Pablo Crispo, who has been twice expelled the Gallinas and the Kittam, was said, and I have reason to believe, truly, to have been on the coast near Cape Mount and Manor Rock; and one Don Lewis, or Louis, who formerly resided in this Lagoon, was reported to have visited the coast near the Rio Pongas; but whether they, or either of them, purchased or conveyed away any slaves, I did not learn; I think they did not.

No. 66.

Consul Hanson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(*Received February 13, 1855.*)

My Lord,

Victoria, Sherbro Island, December 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt on the 4th instant of your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd October, conveying to me the expression of your Lordship's approval of my having made the capture of the two canoes containing 89 slaves, of which I informed your Lordship on the 2nd of September last.

I do myself the honour to assure your Lordship that the expression of your Lordship's approval is a source of deep gratefulness to me.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTUS WM. HANSON.

AUSTRIA.

No. 67.

*Count Colloredo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 17.)**Chandos House, le 16 Octobre, 1854.*

LE Capitaine Autrichien, Andrea Tripeovich, commandant le bâtiment marchand Autrichien "*Raj*," arrivé dernièrement à Londres, s'étant présenté auprès du Consulat-Général d'Autriche, y déposa les faits suivants que le Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Comte de Clarendon, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat au Département des Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté la Reine du Royaume Uni de Grande Bretagne et d'Irlande.

Le 31 Janvier, 1854, le dit bâtiment était mouillé à Porto Novo, dans le Golfe de Guinea, sur la côte d'Afrique.

Le même jour au soir y arriva un brig de la marine de guerre Anglaise "*Arab*," commandé par le Capitaine Ogle, lequel envoya son Premier Lieutenant à bord du bâtiment Autrichien, pour procéder à sa visite. Sur la déclaration du capitaine qu'ils étaient des Autrichiens arrivés à Porto Novo pour y débarquer du "*rum*" et du tabac de leur cargaison, l'officier Anglais répliqua que cela ne pouvait être, qu'ils étaient des Espagnols arrivés pour faire de la contrebande avec des esclaves; il demanda à voir le pavillon, ainsi que les papiers de bord, qu'il emporta avec lui pour les présenter à son commandant.

Le lendemain la visite fut effectuée, à quelle occasion nombre d'utensiles furent cassés et endommagés, les vivres tirés hors des magasins et jetés sur le pont pendant qu'il pleuvait de manière que toutes les provisions furent gâtées. Cette visite terminée, le Capitaine Autrichien se rendit auprès du commandant du brig Anglais et protesta vivement contre le soupçon d'avoir eu en vue le Trafic des Nègres, ajoutant qu'un bâtiment portant le pavillon Autrichien ne s'y était jamais livré et qu'il était venu ici pour faire un commerce permis. Le commandant Anglais, non obstant ces assurances, déclara le bâtiment en question comme bonne prise et le fit escorter par son brig jusqu'à Lagos, où se trouvait l'Amiral Bruce.

A son arrivée à Lagos le bâtiment Autrichien fut soumis à une seconde visite, non moins ruineuse pour ses effets et sa cargaison que ne l'avait été la première, sans qu'elle ait réussi à justifier d'aucune manière les soupçons élevés contre ce bâtiment. Cependant le lendemain, après que l'Amiral eut examiné les papiers du bord, le bâtiment Autrichien fut déclaré libre et le Consul Anglais à Lagos délivra un certificat pour empêcher que d'autres bâtiments de guerre l'arrêtent dans sa course.

Après une longue navigation le bâtiment en question retourna à Porto Novo pour y décharger sa cargaison.

Les pertes essuyées par ce retard, qui lui fit manquer l'occasion d'un contrat très favorable, la circonstance qu'il dût renouveler toutes ses provisions, qu'on n'achette que très cher sur cette côte de l'Afrique, et les dommages que son bâtiment avait soufferts, ont été évalués par le capitaine à 1,000*l.* sterling.

En priant son Excellence de bien vouloir faire prendre les renseignements et informations nécessaires pour constater ces faits, le Soussigné se livre à l'espoir que, dans le cas où les réclamations du capitaine du bâtiment Autrichien en

question soient trouvées fondées en droit, le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique ne refusera pas la réparation demandée en accordant le dédommagement des pertes susmentionnées.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

COLLOREDO.

No. 68.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Colloredo.

Foreign Office, October 20, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Count Colloredo, &c., addressed to him on the 16th instant, complaining of the conduct of Captain Ogle, of Her Majesty's ship "Arab," in having visited and detained the Austrian vessel "Raj," on a charge of Slave Trade at Porto Novo on the 31st January last, and claiming 1,000*l.* as compensation to the owners for the detention of that vessel.

The Undersigned begs to inform Count Colloredo in reply, that he will refer this matter to the proper department of Her Majesty's Government, in order that the motives which led to the detention of the "Raj" may be investigated, and on learning the result of such investigation, the Undersigned will have the honour of communicating further with Count Colloredo on the subject.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 69.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Westmorland.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of three despatches which I have received from His Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, and of one which I have addressed to his Excellency, respecting the exportation of slaves from Circassia and Georgia.*

Your Lordship will communicate the contents of these despatches to Count Buol, and you will state to his Excellency that I feel sure that the Austrian Government will sincerely participate in the gratification which Her Majesty's Government have felt in learning that Viscount Stratford has succeeded in obtaining from the Porte the issue of the two firmans (translations of which accompany his Excellency's despatch of the 9th instant),† prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves in Circassia and Georgia.

Your Lordship will at the same time call the attention of Count Buol to the statements contained in Lord Stratford's instruction to M. Pisani of the 29th of August, and in his Excellency's despatch to me of the 19th September,‡ by which it appears that the vessels belonging to the Austrian Lloyd Company are allowed to convey slaves, and that Lord Stratford has received authentic information that Georgian children have been brought as slaves to Constantinople in an Austrian steamer, and have been conveyed from thence to a person high in the Turkish employment.

You will state to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that it is only necessary to bring this matter under the cognizance of the Austrian Government in order to ensure the necessary orders being given to put a stop to that practice.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

* Nos. 566, 567, 568, and 570.

† No. 570.

‡ No. 568.

No. 70.

The Earl of Westmorland to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

Vienna, October 31, 1854.

I CALLED the attention of Count Buol, in conformity with your Lordship's directions in your despatch of the 24th instant, to the statements contained in Lord Stratford's despatches, by which it appears that the vessels belonging to the Lloyds Steam Company are allowed to carry slaves, and I stated to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government are convinced that it is only necessary to bring this matter under the cognizance of the Austrian Government in order to ensure the necessary orders being given to put a stop to that practice.

Count Buol said he had never heard a syllable about such a practice; that it was contrary to law to detain any person as a slave on board an Austrian vessel; that the moment they came on board they were free, and that any person who chose had a right to deliver them from such bondage.

Count Buol stated that he rejoiced in the success which had attended Lord Stratford's exertions upon this subject, and he was satisfied that if any case of the nature stated had taken place, if any persons in that condition had been transported on board an Austrian vessel, it must have arisen from the concealment of their condition, and he was sure the Internuncio would, upon application, immediately put a stop to such an illegal proceeding.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WESTMORLAND.

No. 71.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Westmorland.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 10, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo, and I have to instruct you to state to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government have received with satisfaction the expression of his Excellency's conviction that the masters of the Austrian Lloyd steamers would not knowingly lend themselves to the conveyance of slaves by their vessels.

Your Lordship will state to Count Buol that Her Majesty's Government hope that the Government of His Imperial Majesty will instruct the Internuncio to take measures in order to put a stop to such proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 72.

The Earl of Westmorland to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord,

Vienna, November 22, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, I stated to Count Buol that, while expressing the satisfaction you received from his communication as to the abolition of the Slave Trade by the Turkish Government, your Lordship was anxious that the Internuncio should be instructed to take measures in order to put a stop to the conveyance of slaves by the vessels of the Austrian Lloyds Company.

Count Buol stated that he had, by the last post, received a report from the Internuncio upon this subject, in which he described the manner in which some persons had brought families on board the Lloyd vessels, with regular passports,

CLASS B.

and had embarked on board those vessels as passengers for Constantinople ; that it was afterwards discovered that some of the persons embarked in this manner had been slaves, who were under the custody of the persons representing themselves as the heads of these families ; and Count Buol assured me that he would look through the correspondence upon this subject, which, as yet, he had not had time to do, and that he would write in the sense desired by your Lordship to the Internuncio with regard to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WESTMORLAND.

No. 73.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Earl of Westmorland.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th ultimo, respecting the conveyance of slaves from Georgia and Circassia in vessels belonging to the Austrian Lloyds Company, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, inclosing a copy of an instruction on the subject which had been addressed by the Ottoman Government to the Dragoman of the Porte, directing him to request the Austrian Legation to give orders for the prevention of any conveyance of Georgian or Circassian slaves in the Austrian steamers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 74.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Colloredo.

Foreign Office, January 31, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Count Colloredo, &c., that he lost no time in referring to the proper department of Her Majesty's Government Count Colloredo's note of the 16th of October last, claiming, on behalf of Andrea Tripeovich, master of the Austrian merchant-vessel "*Raj*," compensation for the losses suffered by Captain Tripeovich in consequence of that vessel having been detained and searched on the coast of Africa by order of Captain Ogle, of Her Majesty's ship "*Arab*."

The Undersigned has just received, through the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a despatch from Captain Ogle, who is now employed on the West India Station, stating the circumstances under which the "*Raj*" was detained ; and the Undersigned, in transmitting to Count Colloredo copies of Captain Ogle's despatch and of its inclosures, begs leave to call his particular attention to the following facts, namely, that the "*Raj*" was consigned to Domingo Martinez, who is one of the most notorious slave-dealers in Africa ; that her supercargo was a Brazilian ; and that she had on board several articles of Slave Trade equipment, enumerated by Captain Ogle, the conveyance of which rendered the vessel liable to condemnation under the IXth Article of the Treaty between Great Britain and Austria of the 20th of December, 1841.

The Undersigned, therefore, trusts that Count Colloredo will be convinced that Captain Tripeovich, so far from having been dealt with unjustly, was treated with great leniency and forbearance, as, indeed, he himself has admitted in his own voluntary declarations, copies of which accompany Captain Ogle's despatch.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 578.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

Commander Ogle to Rear-Admiral Fanshawe.

Sir,

"Arab," at Port Royal, December 22, 1854.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of copies of a letter from the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and of its inclosure from the Austrian Minister in London, complaining of my conduct in having detained the Austrian brig "*Raj*" on charge of Slave Trade on the coast of Africa, with your directions that I am to report thereon for their Lordships' information.

I have the honour to make the following statement :

The Austrian brig "*Raj*" was visited in due form by the Senior Lieutenant of Her Majesty's sloop "*Arab*" on the first of February, 1854, at anchor off Porto Novo.

The vessel was found to have been chartered by parties at Bahia with a cargo of rum and tobacco, consigned to Don Martinez, the most notorious slave-dealer on the coast. On board was a Brazilian supercargo. These circumstances created suspicion.

On searching the hold, sundry articles (slave-coppers, poopoo-tubs, scoops for serving out farina, &c.) were found, being articles forbidden by the Treaty for the Suppression of the Slave Trade (vide Art. IX); the vessel was therefore detained, and taken to Lagos, but was liberated at the expiration of three days for the reasons set forth in the declaration made by the master of the Austrian brig before Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, a copy of which I inclose.

I beg to call their Lordships' attention to this declaration, in justification of my conduct.

I also forward a copy of a letter received from the master of the brig "*Raj*," to prove his ingratitude.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GRAHAM OGLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

Deposition.

APPEARED voluntarily before me, Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, Diodate Andrea Tripeovich, captain and owner of the Austrian merchant brig "*Raj*," who declareth and saith that, being at Porto Novo, in the Bight of Benin, West Coast of Africa, on the 31st January, 1854, the brig which declarant owns and commands was visited by an officer from Her Britannic Majesty's sloop "*Arab*," Commander Ogle, who, on searching declarant's vessel, found sundry articles on board, namely, tubs, known as poopoo tubs, a quantity of mess kids and scoops for serving out farina; that these articles, forming part of slave equipment, and being on board contrary to the Articles of the Slave Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded between Great Britain and Austria, Commander Ogle detained declarant's brig and conveyed her to the anchorage off Lagos, where lay Her Britannic Majesty's ship "*Penelope*" bearing the flag of the Commander-in-chief Rear Admiral Bruce. That a further search and inquiry having been instituted, the Commander-in-chief and Commander Ogle were satisfied that the Articles of Slave Trade equipment before-mentioned were put on board by one of the officers of declarant's brig as a speculation of his own, without declarant's having any knowledge of the purposes to which they might be applied, and of their being contrary to the stipulations of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade concluded between the two Powers, and upon declarant's throwing the said various articles of Slave Trade equipment overboard, declarant's vessel was immediately released from further detention.

The declarant further states, that during the three days his vessel was under detention, the search was conducted with care and in a manner to give

no cause of complaint, and that the decision of Commander Ogle, under the direction of his Commander-in-chief, Rear-Admiral Bruce, to restore declarant's vessel under the conditions mentioned above, was very considerate under the circumstances, and that declarant, so far from being dissatisfied, is most thankful, the brig "*Raj*" being his sole property, and declarant being now enabled to conclude his voyage.

(Signed) DIODATE ANDREA TRIPEOVICH.

Signed before me, Her Majesty's Consul for the Bight of Benin, residing at Lagos, this 8th day of February, 1854.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure 3 in No. 74.

*Captain Tripeovich to Commander Ogle.**

De mon bord, ce 1 Février, 1854.

Très honoré le Commandant Graham Ogle,

JE vous supplie très humblement, M. le Commandanté, de me gracier pour cette foi, et de ne me laissez ruiner entièrement par cause d'un autre parce que les objet qu'on a trouves n'appartiens pas à moi qui à mon maitre d'équipage et qui je ne conaisai entièrement. Je savais qu'il avait quelque chose, mais je ne savais pas combien, et je ne pensais pas qu'eut prandra tout de rigueur pour ses objites. Quante aux esclaves que vous, Monsieur, sospretez sur moi je vous jure au Dieu, et en mon honeur, que absolument je n'ava le moindre pansé et que n'aurais jamais consanti d'embarquer sur mon bord des esclaves, conaisant très bien que cela eut defendu par nos loi et par l'humanité et que cette commerce n'est pas toleré en Europe. Si vous me prenez le bâtiment vous ne toue que pauvre home que je sais j'ai n'ai rien autre au monde e c'est mon d'unique esperance. Il n'y a point d'exemple que bâtiment Autrichiene ay jamais chargé des esclaves et n'y pansez par que moi dans ma viellez vieillard me dishoner avec cette action.

Je vous souplie en genou, M. le Comandanté, par amour de Dieu d'avoir compassion d'un miserable desespiré et innocent, et je prie le Segniur pour votre conservation, avec un votre bon information aupré de M. l'Amiraille vous pouvez me saiver. Ayez pitié, M. le Commandanté, et je suis en vos mains que je besse trehonblement.

Votre, &c.

(Signé) DIODATE ANDREA TRIPEOVICH,
Di Brik "Roy de Autrichien."

No. 75.

Count Colloredo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 2.)

M. le Comte,

Chandos House, le 2 Fevrier, 1855.

JE m'empresse de transmettre à votre Excellence mes remerciements des renseignements contenus dans la note du 13 Janvier que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser, M. le Comte, au sujet de la visite du bâtiment Autrichien "*Raj*" par le brig Anglais "*Arab*;" et saisis, &c.

(Signé) COLLOREDO.

* A literal copy ; the mistakes are in the original.

BRAZIL.

No. 76.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 8, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 13th of January and 11th of February last respectively,* I have the honour of inclosing translation of a note of the 6th instant, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, communicating to me the sentence by which the Municipal Judge of the District of Marianna has declared the woman named Maria, and her two children, slaves of the late John Craven, to be free and restored to liberty.

I likewise beg to inclose a copy of my reply of the 7th instant to Senhor de Abreo, requesting, as an appeal has been made in this case to a higher Court, to be informed when the individuals in question are actually placed in possession of liberty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 76.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, March 6, 1854.

WITH reference to my note dated the 7th of February last, which was accompanied by the information received from the President of the Province of Minas Geraes in respect to the case of the freedom of the three slaves of the British subject, John Craven, who died intestate in the city of Marianna, I have the honour to hand to Mr. Henry Francis Howard, &c., for his information, the inclosed copy of the sentence pronounced in that cause by the substitute Municipal Judge of the district of Marianna, and by which Maria, of the Monjollo nation, and her Creole children, Antonio and Maria, are declared free and restored to liberty, and to the full enjoyment of it, although the said Judge has appealed, *ex officio*, to the Supreme Court of that district.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 76.

Sentence.

(Translation.)

HAVING seen and examined this verbal process, in which are plaintiffs Maria Monjollo and her children, Maria and Antonio, Creoles, assisted by their curator, Dr. José Marçal dos Santos, and defendants the curator of the inhe-

* See Class B, presented 1854, Nos. 147 and 158.

ritance of the Englishman, John Craven, and the collector of the public revenue; the plaintiffs allege that, having been the said John Craven's slaves, they were at all times kindly and charitably treated by him, and that such was the affectionate manner in which they communed with one another, that he seemed rather to be their father than their owner, and they, the plaintiffs, to be his children, and not his slaves; that he, in thus treating them, at the same time assured them and other persons, and publicly said, that the plaintiffs would remain free at his death, being constantly in this beneficent intention towards them; so much so, that having, on the 20th of October, 1849, had a paper written, which is annexed at page 3 to the process, he therein declared that the plaintiffs were to remain free,—an intention thus manifested, both in writing and verbally before many persons, and which remained unaltered at his death, concluding that they were therefore to be declared freed;—all of which, having been seen and examined, the proofs given, and no efficacious opposition appearing on the part of the collector or of the curator of the inheritance, I adjudicate this action to have been well-grounded, for the purpose of declaring, as I do declare, the plaintiffs, Maria Monjollo and her children, Maria and Antonio, Creoles, to be free; and I order that they be restored to liberty in order that they may fully enjoy it, and I condemn the curator of the inheritance in the costs.

I hold the present to be published in the hands of the Clerk of the Court, who is to make it known, and I appeal *ex officio* to the Supreme Tribunal of the district.

Marianna, February 18, 1854.

(Signed)

MANOEL JULIO DE MIRANDA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 76.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of yesterday's date, and to return you my thanks for the welcome intelligence which it conveys of the liberation, by the sentence of the Municipal Judge of Marianna, of the woman and children, slaves of the late John Craven.

As I perceive, however, that an appeal has been made to another Court, I shall be obliged to your Excellency to inform me when the individuals in question are actually placed in possession of liberty.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 77.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th ultimo,* inclosing translation of a note of the 3rd of that month, which I had received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor d'Abreo, explaining, in reply to a former note of mine, the provisions of the Imperial Decree of December last, relative to the emancipation of a certain class of so-called free Africans, I have the honour of transmitting herewith the copy of a further note, together with its inclosure, which I addressed to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo, on the 3rd instant, with a view to induce the Brazilian Government to accelerate and facilitate the restoration of all the Africans so denominated to the enjoyment of full liberty.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 160.

Inclosure 1 in No. 77.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 3, 1854.

I HAD the honour of duly receiving the note addressed to me by your Excellency on the 3rd ultimo, stating, in answer to mine of the 13th January last, the intentions of the Imperial Government in respect to the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, relative to the emancipation of the liberated Africans, and I beg to return to your Excellency my thanks for the explanations which it contains. That note, however, suggests some observations to me, which I accordingly do myself the honour of submitting for your appreciation.

In the first instance, your Excellency remarks that the necessary distinction between liberty and emancipation is not made in my above-mentioned note. To this I beg to reply, that as far as the Mixed Commissions were concerned, the 7th Article of the Regulations annexed to the Additional Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, provided that the slaves should receive from the Commissions a certificate of emancipation, and the term "emancipation" was likewise employed in the judgments pronounced by those Commissions. The fact, however, that a very large class of so-called "free Africans," have for a great length of time been unjustly and unlawfully kept in bondage is so notorious, and has formed the subject of such reiterated complaints on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that it will be unnecessary for me now to dwell upon it.

Your Excellency then proceeds to explain the distinction in question, and in so doing refers to the Brazilian instructions of the 29th of October, 1834, and 19th of November, 1835, and states that they had, with regard to the hiring out of the free Africans, the double object in view of aiding, by means of the wages of those Africans, their reexportation, and of keeping them in the mean time under a tutelar administration.

I find that the 9th Article of the last-named instructions of the year 1835, provides that "the produce of the hiring shall be applied either in aid of the expenses of the reexportation of the Africans, or for their benefit." As the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last imposes upon the Africans emancipated under it the obligation of residing in the places appointed by the Government, and as your Excellency states that insuperable difficulties have, since the publication of the instructions, prevented their reexportation, I conclude that it is the intention of the Imperial Government to adopt the alternative mentioned in the above-named Article, of applying the accumulated produce of their hiring for their benefit, by assisting them in their establishment and maintenance; and I should feel obliged to your Excellency for information on this important point. I feel persuaded, however, that the Imperial Government will not fail to afford every facility to such of the Africans in question who may be desirous of leaving the Empire.

In reply to my objections to the length of servitude required of the free Africans previous to their total emancipation, your Excellency states that the Imperial Government, in order that this period should not be arbitrary, had fixed the term of fourteen years, which was that which had already been established in § 5 of the Alvará of the 26th of January, 1818, for Africans declared free by the Mixed Commission created under the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817; but I beg leave to remark that the same paragraph of that Alvará, adds that the "time of servitude may be shortened by two or more years, according as the good conduct of these persons may entitle them to full freedom;" and I therefore think that I was justified in my objections to the positive and protracted term of fourteen years fixed by the Imperial Decree of December last, without regard to the additional clause which I have just quoted, and of which I still hope that the Imperial Government will be disposed to give the benefit to the Africans to whom the Decree applies.

Neither the instructions of the 29th October, 1834, nor those of the 19th November, 1835, prescribe a fixed term; both of them, on the contrary, imposed upon the hirers of the Africans the obligation of giving them up whenever called upon by the Imperial Government, either for the purpose of reexportation or by reason of the non-fulfilment of any of the conditions required of them.

I observe that the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last, makes no mention of the free Africans who are employed in the public service, and with regard to whose period of service the Alvará of 1818 fixed the same limits as were established for freedmen hired out to private individuals; and I shall be obliged to your Excellency to inform me what course the Imperial Government proposes to follow in regard to them.

With regard to the petition clause in the Imperial Decree of December last, I do not find any similar one in the International Treaties or Conventions, nor in the Alvará of the year 1818, or the instructions of 1834 and 1835: according to your Excellency's statement, it has been introduced on considerations of public order, which I fully agree with you ought to be taken into due account, with a view to prevent the inconvenience which might arise from a sudden and tumultuous emancipation of a large body of Africans; but I take the liberty of observing that if the Imperial Government had gradually emancipated the Africans in question, any danger accruing from simultaneous emancipation would have been obviated; and although I receive with lively satisfaction the assurance contained in your Excellency's note, that the Imperial Government will not consent to the provisions of the Decree in favour of the Africans being eluded in consequence of the existence of the clause in question, I cannot but entertain apprehensions that the clause will act as a serious impediment to emancipation, and will thus defeat the benevolent intentions of the Imperial Government.

It therefore appears to me that the Imperial Government would do well to abandon it, and relieve the Africans from the onus of petitioning for their liberty, by assuming themselves the charges of emancipation, and I take the liberty of suggesting that the Imperial Government should call upon the Judge or Curator of the Africans, whoever may be the proper authority, for a report of the length and nature of the services of the Africans to be emancipated, and that the Imperial Government should then proceed to emancipate them, making such arrangements as may obviate any fear of a disturbance of public order.

The apprehensions which I entertain generally concerning the difficulties which the free Africans are likely to encounter before procuring their full liberty, are confirmed by the case of one of them named Claudio, which has come to my knowledge, and of which the circumstances are the following:

In the month of January last Claudio presented himself to Her Majesty's Consul, and inquired whether he could be furnished with a passage on board an English vessel. Mr. Westwood having found an English captain ready to take Claudio, the latter addressed a petition for his liberty to the Curator, Senhor C. H. de Figueiredo, who called upon him to prove that he had the means of leaving the Empire; upon which Claudio procured a certificate from Mr. Westwood to the effect that the captain of an English vessel was willing to take him. This, however, did not suffice, and Claudio was obliged, as your Excellency will perceive from the inclosed copy of a letter of the 26th of January last, from Senhor de Figueiredo to Mr. Westwood, to procure another certificate to the same effect, signed by the master of the vessel in question and countersigned by the Consul. Claudio's certificate of liberty was then delivered, but he was obliged to obtain from your Excellency's office a passport, which I understand he had to pay for, besides incurring other charges consequent upon the necessity of employing an agent, and which it would have been impossible for him to meet had he not been assisted.

I have not learnt that the Curator lent him any pecuniary aid; the question may therefore be asked, what became of the produce of his hiring? It is necessary to add that these various formalities, and the steps which Claudio was obliged to take, and of which I have only related a part, were not accomplished under several weeks, and required, it may be affirmed, more perseverance and energy to overcome than could be found amongst the generality of Africans.

In conclusion, I beg to express the hope that the considerations and facts which I have thus had the honour of laying before your Excellency, will induce the Imperial Government to follow up their humane intentions, and to adopt additional measures with a view to accelerate the emancipation of the unfortunate class of individuals of whom this note treats, and thus repair the injury of long standing done to them.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 77.

The Curator of Freed Africans to Consul Westwood.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, January 26, 1854.

THE free African Claudio, who, according to the certificate of the English Consul, may embark on board the English schooner, must present a paper from the master of the schooner, showing that he takes him in his vessel out of the Empire, because the Government has exempted this African from further services, on condition that he should reside out of the Empire. This paper is required for presentation at the receiving office of the Municipality of the Capital, and for the delivery of the letter with which he is to proceed.

The paper which the captain is to furnish, must be similar to the copy given to the free African Claudio, and be signed also by the Consul.

The Curator,
(Signed) C. H. DE FIGUEIREDO.

No. 78.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 17.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 15, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd of January last,* I this day explained to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, with reference to his note to me of the 11th of December, 1853, that the communications which had passed between your Lordship and M. de Macedo, with regard to the proposed Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil, related generally to that Treaty, and not to the particular question as to the visiting of Brazilian merchant-vessels; and in order the better to convey to his Excellency the contents of your Lordship's despatch, I read it to him, and left with him a copy of it.

Beyond alluding to the further elucidation of his meaning in respect to your Lordship's communications with M. de Macedo, as given in his note to me of the 30th of December last, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 1st of January of this year,† Senhor de Abreo did not make any further remark upon your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 79.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 19, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th ultimo, and I have to instruct you to inform the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with great satisfaction that the Municipal Judge of Marianna has pronounced a judgment directing that the three slaves who belonged to the late John Craven are to be set at liberty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 141.

† *Ibid.*, No. 142.

No. 80.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed on the 3rd ultimo to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, urging the Brazilian Government to adopt measures to accelerate the entire liberation of the negroes in Brazil, emancipated under the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817; and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve of your note to Senhor d'Abreo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 81.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th ultimo, reporting that you had communicated to Senhor d'Abreo a copy of my despatch to you of the 23rd of January last,* in which I explained that the Brazilian Government were mistaken in supposing that Her Majesty's Government intended to issue orders to British cruizers to discontinue to search and detain Brazilian vessels suspected of being engaged in Slave Trade; and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the manner in which you have executed my instructions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 82.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 10, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of February last,† I addressed on the 8th instant to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, calling his Excellency's attention to the cruelty of the system of exporting slaves coastwise in large numbers from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, as exemplified by Mr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul at the former port, and suggesting the expediency of putting a stop to it by some legislative enactment.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1854.

THE list,‡ of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, of the number of slaves, amounting to no less than 1,080, exported coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro during the year 1853, has lately been received by Her Majesty's Government from Mr. Morgan, Her Majesty's Consul at the former port, who has likewise pointed out the grievous hardships which this practice entails upon the negro population in Brazil.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 141.

† Ibid., No. 162.

‡ Ibid., p. 250.

After a few years' residence in Brazil, the Bozal negro becomes comparatively civilized. In time he marries and has a family, and, like the rest of mankind, must be supposed to possess feelings of attachment to his progeny. All at once a slave-trader comes into the market from Rio de Janeiro, buys up from the needy or avaricious masters all those slaves he can obtain, and in most cases is the cause of the separation of a father from his wife and children, and *vice versa*, the unfortunate African being perhaps sold at his ulterior destination to some harder master, or to some other unprincipled speculator.

This Traffic, which to the honour of the Brazilian name does not appear to be prevalent amongst Brazilians, but to be carried on chiefly by Portuguese, being covered by the protection of the law, I have been directed by the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to call your Excellency's attention to the cruelty of the system involved in it, as above exemplified, and to suggest that it should be put a stop to by some Legislative enactment.

I venture to hope that the Imperial Government, who have evinced such humane and earnest intentions in regard to the abolition of the Slave Trade, will not be indisposed to entertain this suggestion on the part of my Government for the suppression of a Traffic not less cruel perhaps than the African Trade itself.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 83.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 10, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 1st ultimo,* I have notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the directions given by the Brazilian Government to the proper authorities on the subject of vessels having been reported to have cleared out from Bahia for slave-trading purposes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 84.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 12, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing a copy of the note which I addressed on the 8th instant to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreu, in execution of your Lordship's instruction relative to the exportation of slaves coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, I have the honour of inclosing the translation of a reply, dated the 10th instant, which I have since received from his Excellency, stating that the Brazilian Government will take the subject of that note into their consideration.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 154.

Inclosure in No. 84.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 10, 1854.

IN acknowledging the receipt of the note which was addressed to me on the 8th instant by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., with a list of the slaves exported coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro with passports granted by the authorities of the said province during the last year, I have the honour to state to him that the Imperial Government will take into their consideration the subject-matter of the said note.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 85.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 12, 1854.

HAVING communicated to Admiral Henderson your Lordship's decision that the liberated African, Fernando, who forms the subject of your despatch to me of the 7th ultimo,* should await here the first opportunity that may offer for sending him to a British Colony; and having learnt from the Admiral that such an opportunity would occur in a couple of days by Her Majesty's ship "Juno," proceeding to the Cape of Good Hope, I have availed myself of his offer to order Fernando a passage on board that vessel, and I have accordingly requested him to send the African in her to the Cape of Good Hope.

I have likewise written to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, placing at his disposal the said Fernando, who is desirous of rejoining his family at Fernando Po, or Cabinda.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 86.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th of February last,† transmitting copies of my correspondence with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of two Portuguese vessels, the "Guerra" and the "Trajano," which left the Douro some time ago on a slave-trading expedition, I have the honour of inclosing the translation of a further note of the 11th instant which I have received from his Excellency, conveying the latest information obtained by the Brazilian Government on the subject of those vessels, together with a copy of my reply of this day's date, stating how much obliged I am persuaded Her Majesty's Government will feel for his attention in communicating that intelligence.

I cannot allow this opportunity to go by without calling your Lordship's attention to the difficulties which are interposed in the way of what I believe to be the honest endeavour which the Brazilian Government are at present making to put an end to the African Slave Trade, by the ease with which the slave-traders, whose head-quarters are at Lisbon and Oporto, are permitted to carry on their machinations in Portugal, and by the impunity with which they are enabled to fit out and dispatch slave-trading expeditions from Portuguese ports.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 157.

† Ibid., No. 163.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., that from the last information received by the Imperial Government respecting the Portuguese schooners "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," it appears: first, that these two vessels are not the property of Bernardo José Machado; but that they belong to Thomas da Costa Ramos, who now resides in Lisbon; secondly, that the said vessels were in effect destined to the coast of Africa for the purpose of bringing away slaves, and on board of one of them there was a certain Venezuelan subject, Benito Derizanz, long accustomed to the Traffic, who is strongly suspected of having been commissioned by the said Costa Ramos, with whom he is connected, to manage the transaction; thirdly, that having touched at Novo Redondo, they there received cargoes of slaves, with which they steered towards Havana, and not for any of the ports of the coasts of this Empire; fourthly, that it appears that a British cruizer had also touched at the same place, but too late to prevent the embarkation of the slaves.

Although the Government of Her Britannic Majesty have probably received the same information through other channels, I hasten to transmit it to Mr. Howard, as the true destination of those vessels may still be unknown, and in order that suitable intelligence may be conveyed to the proper quarter.

I reiterate, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 11th instant, conveying to me the latest intelligence received by the Imperial Government relative to the two Portuguese vessels the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which left Oporto some time ago on a slave-trading expedition, and I will not fail to transmit a copy of it to Her Majesty's Government, who, whether they are already possessed of the information in question or not, will, I am convinced, feel equally obliged to your Excellency for your attention in communicating it to them through me.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 87.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report the circumstances under which I have thought it my duty to afford my protection to a liberated African of the name of John, and the measures which I have taken concerning him.

On the 20th of March, this African presented himself to Mr. Consul Westwood, and stated that he was detained in slavery here, although entitled to his freedom, and that he, therefore, claimed British protection. After a preparatory examination, Mr. Westwood referred him to me, with the expression of his opinion that he considered him entitled to such protection.

On my questioning this negro, who spoke English fluently, I was told by him that he was born at Benguella, and brought to Rio when a child; that about seventeen years ago he was taken by his master on a slave-trading expedition to the coast of Africa, but that the vessel having been captured by a British cruizer, he was taken to the Cape of Good Hope and declared free; that

he then served an apprenticeship of eight years at Cape Town, under different masters, whose names are known to me, and continued in service at the Cape afterwards, until within about three years ago, when he took a passage in a vessel coming to Rio. Here his certificate of freedom was stolen from him, and a friend of his former Brazilian master again reduced him to slavery, and sent him into the interior of the country, with the object of selling him; but the sale not having been effected, John was brought back to this city, and had been beaten and ill-treated by the person who pretended to be his master, and that he had consequently taken an opportunity of making his escape, and seeking the protection of the British Consul.

The particulars into which John entered, the manner in which he related them, and the circumstance of his speaking English perfectly well, for a negro, as well as the knowledge which he showed of the names of the few latter Governors of the Cape, and of residents there, left no doubt on my mind but that the main features of his story were correct, and that he was entitled to my protection.

I accordingly granted it to him. At the same time, however, I addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, stating the course which I had thought it my duty to pursue, and informing his Excellency that I addressed myself to him, in order that the fact of John's liberty might be established, and that the Brazilian Government might, should the circumstances of the case prove to be such as reported by John, take the necessary measures for punishing the individual who had illegally kept him in slavery since his arrival from the Cape.

I have not yet received any reply from Senhor de Abreo; but in the mean time I have learned from private sources that John's late master, Senhor Antonio da Costa, has been interrogated, that he declares that he renounces all claim to John, and that he is endeavouring to make out that he had bought him of his former master, not knowing him to be a free man.

In the mean time, my further experience of John's character, the fact of his speaking Dutch besides English, as well as other circumstances, have confirmed me in my first impressions that he has a full right to his liberty, and in my determination to continue to protect him; and an opportunity occurring of sending him back to the Cape by Her Majesty's ship "Juno," which sails for that destination to-morrow, I have this day sent him on board Her Majesty's ship "Madagascar," which has replaced the "Crescent" as a receiving ship in this port, and I have requested Admiral Henderson to order him a passage on board the "Juno," which the Admiral has engaged to do.

At the same time I have written to the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope recommending John to his good offices, and requesting his Excellency to be so good as to make inquiries respecting him, and to communicate to me the result.

I have been obliged to act upon my own responsibility in this case, and I venture to hope that your Lordship may not see reason to disapprove of the course I have adopted.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 87.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 20, 1854.

I HASTEN to inform your Excellency that an African, who calls himself John, presented himself this evening to me, and, on the ground of his having been liberated at the Cape of Good Hope, claimed my protection, which I have thought it my duty to grant him under the following circumstances:—

From the statement this African has made to me, it appears that he was born at Benguella, and brought to Rio when a child, and consigned to slavery. Some time subsequently—about seventeen years ago—he was taken by his master, Senhor Antonio Augusto de Oliveira, to the coast of Africa, on a slave-trading voyage in a Portuguese vessel called the "Congresso." The "Congresso" was, however, captured by one of Her Majesty's cruisers, and taken to the Cape

of Good Hope, where John was declared free, and where he served an apprenticeship of eight years with Judge Mansell and Mr. Ker Hamilton, from both of whom he received wages. He then served other masters at the Cape, and about three years ago embarked as a passenger on board the British vessel "Black Squall" for Rio, where he intended to take service. Soon after his arrival here, his certificate of freedom, delivered by Mr. Field at Cape Town, was stolen from him, as he has reason to believe, by a countryman of his, and, being taken up by the police agents, he was given up to Senhor Antonio Luiz da Costa, who resides in Rua Nova da Prainha, in this city, on the plea of the latter being a friend of Senhor Oliveira, John's former master. Senhor Luiz da Costa has ever since held him in slavery, and about seven months ago sent him in charge of a person called José Custodio to the house of a Captain Barreto, at a place called Rosal, apparently with the object of selling him.

The sale not having been effected, as it appears from the circumstance of John speaking English fluently, and declaring to Captain Barreto that he was a free man, he was sent back to Senhor Costa about ten days ago, and was severely flogged by him, and still bears the marks of flagellation, and was put in irons for not having concealed his history and his knowledge of English. John, who says that he was here called Joaquim, took the opportunity of making his escape last night, and presented himself to-day to Her Majesty's Consul, by whom he was immediately referred to me. From the fact of John speaking English fluently, and of his having mentioned the name of Mr. Ker Hamilton, with whose family I am acquainted, and whom I know to have filled a Government office at the Cape, and from the clear nature of his statement, I am induced to give full credence to his story, and consequently I consider him as entitled to my protection, having once touched the British soil, where his emancipation was a matter of course. I have therefore the honour of addressing myself to your Excellency in order that the fact of his liberty may be established, and that, supposing the circumstances to have been such as he reports them, the Imperial Government may take the necessary steps for punishing the individual who has illegally kept him in slavery.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 88.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE to inform you that I have received from the Duke of Newcastle a copy of a letter addressed to his Grace by Mr. Joseph Sturge of Birmingham respecting the treatment of the coolies, or Chinese labourers, imported into Cuba and Brazil, in which that gentleman states that the coolies, on their arrival in Cuba, are publicly bought and sold, and treated as slaves, and that their condition is little better in Brazil.

I have therefore to call your attention to this subject, and to desire that you will report to me any information which you may be able to obtain as to the condition of the free labourers imported into Brazil.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 89.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo,* stating that you have availed yourself of an opportunity afforded to you by Rear-Admiral Henderson, to send the liberated African Fernando to the Cape of Good Hope; and I have to acquaint you that, under the peculiar circumstances

* No. 85.

of this man's case, I approve of your having sent him to that colony; but if a large number of negroes should happen at any time to be placed at your disposal for transmission to a British colony, you will adhere to the practice pointed out by Her Majesty's Government and pursued by your predecessor, of sending them either to Demerara or to Trinidad.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 90.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a note addressed to you on the 11th ultimo by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating to you the information which had come to the knowledge of the Imperial Government as to the proceedings of the Portuguese vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto on a slave-trading voyage; and I have in reply to instruct you to express to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information contained in his note to you above referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 91.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,† stating the circumstances under which you have afforded your protection to a liberated African named John, and have obtained for him a passage in Her Majesty's ship "*Juno*" to the Cape of Good Hope; and I have to acquaint you that I entirely approve the course which you have taken in behalf of this man.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 92.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of three important Decrees with regard to slavery in Cuba, which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last,‡ and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of free labourers coming from foreign countries, and the registration of slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 93.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, called upon me this evening to acquaint me that he had received information that a schooner, of the nationality

* No. 86.

† No. 87.

‡ Inclosures in No. 384.

of which he was not cognizant, was expected in a fortnight or three weeks from the coast of Africa, for the purpose of landing a cargo of 400 or 500 Africans, at or near a place called Tramandahy, on the coast of the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul; that from the source from which he had received this information, he believed the report to be probable; that the Brazilian Government had already taken some preliminary measures in the matter, and proposed to send a Government steamer to-morrow or the day after, to cruize off the coast in question, in order to intercept the expected vessel; and he inquired of me whether Admiral Henderson had a steamer at his disposal for the same purpose.

I returned his Excellency my best thanks for the information, and stated that I would write to the Admiral on the subject.

I have accordingly transmitted Senhor de Abreo's statement to Admiral Henderson, and suggested to him to order such efficient vessel as he may have at his disposal, on the service in question.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 94.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of April last, reporting the steps which had been taken by the Brazilian Government to intercept a schooner which was expected shortly to arrive in the neighbourhood of Tramandahy from the west coast of Africa, with a cargo of 400 or 500 slaves; and I have in reply to instruct you to express to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the measures taken by the Imperial Government in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 95.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith copies and translations of a correspondence which has been exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and myself, relative to the Bozal Africans found in the possession of a Senhor Paes, a merchant of Nitherohy.

Several cases of attempts to reduce free Africans to slavery lately having come to my knowledge, I had thought it advisable to ask for information on the subject of those Africans.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 95.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpa de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 29, 1854.

THE public prints have recently announced the arrest, by the authorities of Nitherohy, of Senhor Paes, of the firm of Paes, Vianna, and Co., for having two Bozal Africans in his possession. This circumstance would either denote that the territory of Brazil has again been disgraced by a landing of Africans, or that they are illegally introduced in small numbers into the country,

CLASS B.

in consequence of sufficient vigilance not being exercised by the Imperial authorities in the ports of entrance concerning the legitimacy of the possession of slaves by passengers and other persons arriving from slave-trading countries.

Upon these points, consequently, I should feel obliged for any information with which your Excellency may be able to furnish me.

The same papers state, that the influential slave-trading friends of Senhor Paes are ready to make every sacrifice to rescue him from the consequences of the crime with which he is charged, but I am persuaded that it is unnecessary for me to call your Excellency's attention to these statements, as I am convinced that if the charge is substantiated against Senhor Paes, the Imperial Government, far from permitting him to be screened from the just penalty he may have incurred, will be disposed to vindicate the majesty of the law and to visit him, whatever his station in life may be, with its fullest severity.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 95.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, April 5, 1854.

IN addition to the note which, on the 31st ultimo, I addressed to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., acknowledging the receipt of the one which he addressed to me dated the 29th, I have the honour to transmit to him the explanations just received from the Minister of Justice relative to the fact of which Mr. Howard's said note treats, that is, the imprisonment of M. Paes by the authorities of Nitherohy, in consequence of his having in his possession two Bozal negroes.

From these elucidations, furnished by the Chief of the Police of the province of Rio de Janeiro, Mr. Howard will see that the said Africans formed no part of any recent and unknown disembarkations which may have taken place in that province, there being every reason for believing, on the contrary, that they escaped from the captures effected in Manguinhos or in Quissaman in February and November, 1851; with which, the apprehensions manifested by Mr. Howard in his note, that the territory of Brazil had again been disgraced by a disembarkation of Africans, and that these had been introduced in small number through the want of vigilance on the part of the Brazilian authorities, ought to be dispelled.

From the same elucidations Mr. Howard will learn, that the respective process is pending at present which caused the discovery of the two Africans in the house of the Portuguese, João Joaquim Paes, and who were considered as Bozal, but whose freedom has already been adjudicated by the Municipal Judge of that capital; and according to the information communicated by the Minister of Justice, the authorities of Nitherohy have displayed the greatest energy and activity in their inquiries into the crime, and the prosecution of the indicated criminals, and the Imperial Government cannot but consider as perfectly gratuitous the supposition that they could be in any manner influenced to depart from the performance of their duties.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 95.

The Chief of Police to the President of the Province of Rio de Janeiro.

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, March 31, 1854.

IN consequence of the information lodged with the Sub-delegate of the Police of this city by the Portuguese merchant Joaquim Gonçalves do Monte Vianna, against his partner, also a Portuguese, João Joaquim Paes, that the latter kept in his house Bozal Africans, and saying that he had resolved upon

laying that information in order to avoid their commercial firm being brought into trouble by that fact, the authority was of opinion that that denunciation ought not to be disregarded, it being above all desirable to ascertain whether any disembarkation of Africans had lately been so clandestinely effected as to be unknown to the public authority; and therefore, upon searching the house of the said merchant, two Africans were, in fact, found there, one of whom was evidently a Bozal, and the other still imperfectly speaking the national language. Accordingly, the said Sub-delegate sent João Joaquim Paes to prison, and having submitted the case of the two Africans to the Municipal Judge of this city, they were by the latter declared free.

The proper criminal proceedings being then about to be instituted, I particularly desired the Sub-delegate to try, by every means within his reach, to investigate how the disembarkation of those Africans had been effected; and not only from the declarations made before the Municipal Judge, but likewise from the fresh examination which I ordered to be proceeded with in the presence of the Sub-delegate, it was ascertained that one of these Africans, named Luiz, of the Benguella nation, disembarked in Macahé at the time that His Majesty the Emperor passed through that place in his journey to Campos, and having been taken to the house of the merchant Francisco Domingues, was sold from thence to Cantagallo, where he remained in the house of the planter João Antonio de Moraes, until he was again sold and brought to this capital. The other African, named José, of the Congo nation, not having been interrogated in the presence of the Municipal Judge respecting the circumstances of his disembarkation, by reason of his not knowing how to speak, declared before the Sub-delegate, through the means of an interpreter, that he came from the coast of Africa about three years ago, and disembarked in Campos, was afterwards removed to Cantagallo, where he remained in the house of a planter, whose name he could not tell; it therefore appearing to me that he is one of those Africans who escaped from the captures effected in Manguinhos or in Quissaman in February and November, 1851.

I must add, that João Joaquim Paes, since his imprisonment, and in order to move from his shoulders the responsibility attending the possession of these negroes, presented two bills of sale furnished with the competent certificates of the duty having been paid in Cantagallo, from which it is seen that the said Africans were there sold to his agent by the planters, João Antonio de Moraes and João de Faria Salgado, which confirms the declarations made by the said Africans relative to the places and persons in whose possession they had been. Although the process instituted for the above-mentioned reason is not yet terminated, I have nevertheless considered it my duty to bring what has occurred to your Excellency's knowledge, putting you thus in possession of the facts, in consequence of their having produced some sensation in the capital, and the public press having noticed them; and I await the conclusion of the said process to cause extracts to be made of the most important documents, and to report the result.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE RICARDO DE SA REGO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 95.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, April 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 5th instant, in reply to mine of the 29th ultimo, and to thank you for the information which it contains concerning the arrest of Senhor Paes, and the two Africans found in his possession.

At the same time I must express my surprise at the observation contained in your Excellency's note, that the Imperial Government cannot but consider as perfectly gratuitous the supposition that any influences could make the authorities at Nitherohy deviate from the performance of their duties.

Speaking generally, I referred, it is true, to the possibility of Africans being imported in small numbers, in consequence of sufficient vigilance not being exercised in the ports of entrance by the Imperial authorities concerning

the legitimacy of the possession of slaves by passengers and other persons arriving from slave-trading countries: but my note did not contain, as will be seen from its wording, any charge or imputation against the authorities of Nitherohy, who appear to have acted with energy and decision: on the contrary, whilst I alluded in it to the reports to be found in the public journals that the slave-trading friends of Senhor Paes were ready to make every sacrifice to rescue him from the consequences of the crime of which he had been accused, I expressed the conviction that the ends of justice would not be allowed to be defeated, should the charges against him be substantiated; consequently, I beg to submit that, if there has been an erroneous or gratuitous supposition, it has not been on my part.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 96.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith an extract, in translation, from that part of the speech held by the Emperor of Brazil on opening yesterday the session of the General Assembly of the Legislature, which relates to the question of the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 96.

Extract from the Speech of the Emperor of Brazil, May 7, 1854.

(Translation.)

MY Government continue to exercise the most active and energetic vigilance in the repression of the Slave Trade, by the employment of the whole of the means at their disposal towards the extinction of that abominable Trade, and their efforts have been hitherto crowned with happy results.

I recommend to you the Project of Law initiated in the Senate at the latter end of the past session, which has for its object to render this repression the more effective.

No. 97.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd of March last,* I yesterday addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, a note inclosing a copy of the Portaria issued by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, ordering the expulsion from the Province of Angola of the Brazilian subject Francisco Antonio Flores, on account of his notorious participation in slave-trading operations.

In this Portaria allusion is made to Don Jacintho Derizanz, a well-known slave-trader. This individual arrived here lately under strong suspicions of having come for the purpose of concerting new schemes with his former associates. I accordingly, on the 8th instant, addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, urging his Excellency to cause his proceedings to be watched.

In the note in which I communicated to his Excellency the Portuguese Portaria, I again made reference to Senhor Derizanz.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 164.

Inclosure in No. 97.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

IT has come to my knowledge that the notorious slave-trader Jacintho, who was formerly captain of the steamer "*Providencia*," and was subsequently found on board of the "*Sarah*," which was burnt near this port by Her Majesty's ship "*Cormorant*," and who has now become a naturalized American citizen, has recently arrived here from the United States in the American brig "*General Pierce*," of which he is stated to be the owner.

It appears, that ever since Jacintho left Rio de Janeiro, he has been employed in conveying Africans to the Havana, in partnership with the slave-trader Costa Ramos; moreover, his brother, Benito, is said to have been captain of one of the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which some time ago left Oporto on a slave-trading expedition to the coast of Africa; and since his return here, he has, I am informed, been making inquiries after some of his former associates.

All these circumstances appear to indicate that Jacintho has come here for the purpose of concerting slave-trading transactions, and that the destination of the "*General Pierce*" may very probably be the coast of Africa. I therefore beg to call your Excellency's attention to these particulars, in case it should not already have been directed towards them with a view to the Imperial Government taking such measures as they may deem most expedient for watching, and, as the case may be, for frustrating the designs of so old an offender as Senhor Jacintho.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 98.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd of March last,* I have conveyed, in a note of yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the instructions sent to the President of the Province of Bahia as to the necessity of carefully inspecting and watching all vessels clearing out from thence for the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 99.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have embodied in a note which I addressed, under yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the contents of your Lordship's despatch to me of the 24th March last,† directing me to express to his Excellency the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the information furnished by him relative to the proceedings of the slave-dealers at Loanda, and also for the promise that the Brazilian Government will urge the Chamber of Deputies to pass the Bill for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, approved by the Senate

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 165.

† Ibid., No. 166.

last session; to inform his Excellency that Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon has been instructed to communicate to the Portuguese Government the above-mentioned information respecting the schemes of the slave-traders at Loanda; and to urge that Government to take effective measures for the prevention of those criminal projects; and likewise to inform his Excellency that Sir R. Pakenham has been instructed to urge the Portuguese Government to pass a law for the prevention of Slave Trade similar to that approved of by the Brazilian Senate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 100.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

CONSEQUENTLY upon the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 25th of March last,* I yesterday addressed a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, expressing to his Excellency the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt, with reference to the report that certain vessels are supposed to be on their way to the coast of Brazil with cargoes of Africans on board, the vigorous and determined measures of the Brazilian Government in order to counteract these criminal projects of the slave-dealers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 101.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo,† I have the honour of inclosing to your Lordship the copy of a note which I addressed on the 8th instant to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, relating to the information which had reached me concerning the schooner which is expected shortly from the coast of Africa with a cargo of African slaves to be landed on the coast of the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

I also beg to inclose copies of a despatch of the 29th ultimo, from Admiral Henderson, informing me that he had sent Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sharpshooter" to cruise off that part of the coast where the landing is expected.

Inclosure 1 in No. 101.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

ALTHOUGH I think it probable that your Excellency has already received the same particulars which have reached me concerning the schooner which, according to the intelligence which you were so good as first to communicate to me, and which has likewise been subsequently conveyed to me, is shortly expected from the coast of Africa with a cargo of Africans to be landed on the coast of Rio Grande do Sul, I nevertheless

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 167.

† No. 93.

take the chance of your not having learnt those particulars, and I accordingly beg to report them.

It appears that the schooner in question was fitted out in the Bay of Garopas in the Province of St. Catherine's, that one of her owners is Manoel Moreira, who resides at St. Catherine's, and who was implicated in a previous slave-trading transaction; that others of the speculators belong to Rio Grande, whilst there are grounds for believing that Senhor João Augusto Pereira de Almeida, a Portuguese merchant of this capital, who left Rio de Janeiro for Rio Grande between thirty and forty days ago, is likewise interested in the proposed disembarkation of Africans, and undertook his voyage on business connected with it.

The schooner having been equipped at Garopas, it becomes a question how far the Captain of the port of St. Catherine's, Senhor José Maria Waldenque, may not have been cognizant of the affair.

Besides Tramandahy, first-mentioned to me by your Excellency, Cape St. Martha to the north of it, and Estreito to the south of it, have been pointed to me as places where the disembarkation might be attempted.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 101.

Rear-Admiral Henderson to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

"Madagascar," Rio de Janeiro, April 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday's date, communicating the information which has been given you of a schooner being expected to land a cargo of Africans at Tramandahy, on the coast of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, and suggesting that I should send a vessel to cruize in the vicinity of the expected landing.

I have ordered Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sharpshooter" to proceed on the service in question, in the execution of which she will sail to-morrow morning.

The "Bonetta" was under orders to sail to-day, and, after visiting the anchorages inside Ilha Grande and the Island of Marambaia, to extend her cruize as far as St. Catherine's; but under the present circumstances she will not now proceed until I am joined by another vessel.

No. 102.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

HAVING observed in the public prints an advertisement, offering for hire or for sale, an African negress, of from 18 to 20 years of age, and consequently entitled to her liberty as necessarily imported into Brazil since the year 1831, I addressed, on the 5th instant, to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, calling his Excellency's attention to the fact, with a view to an investigation and to the punishment of the guilty.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo has acknowledged the receipt of my note, and informed me that he has brought the case to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 102.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 3rd instant, published in this capital, and to call your Excellency's attention to an advertisement which is contained in the fourth page, and which I have marked, offering for hire or sale, in the Rua do Sobão, No. 161, a negress, an African ("de nação" being the term employed), of from 18 to 20 years of age.

Now, it is evident that this negress must have been imported since the year 1831; that she has consequently a right to her liberty; and that the persons who have thus offered her for hire or sale have rendered themselves amenable to the penalties awarded by the law.

I have, therefore, thought it my duty to signal this fact to your Excellency, feeling persuaded that the knowledge of it will induce the Imperial Government to investigate the matter, and cause the guilty to be punished; for I am convinced that your Excellency will agree with me that, in order to suppress the Slave Trade, it is necessary not only to prevent the importation of Africans, but likewise to punish those who carry on the Slave Trade within the Empire itself.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 103.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 11, 1854.

HAVING received private information of an attempt to reduce the child of a free African negress to slavery on the part of a merchant of this capital, Senhor Soares, I thought it advisable, although the case had been laid before the Brazilian police authorities, and they had taken some measures in consequence, to bring the matter under the notice of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, with a view to further inquiries being made, and to the punishment of those who may have offended against the law; and I accordingly addressed yesterday to Senhor Limpo de Abreo the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 103.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 10, 1854.

THE following circumstances have come to my knowledge, and I beg to call your Excellency's especial attention to them.

A merchant of this capital, Senhor Joaquim Louis Soares, residing in the Rua Direita, who is reported to be a Brazilian subject, had in his charge a free African woman, who, when the time of her service had expired, petitioned to be re-exported; this petition was granted. Whilst in the service of Soares, she had a daughter who was baptized in the parish of the Candelaria as a slave, and Soares consequently refused to allow this African woman to take her child with her. She went to the police to complain, and on inquiries being made, Soares alleged that the baptising of the child as a slave had been through mistake, and he obtained of the Bishop an order to the Vicar to baptise the child anew as free. The

ceremony took place four or five days after the mother had lodged her complaint, the child being 12 years old. The black woman's husband was arrested by the Delegate of Police (having taken an active part in the affair against Soares), but has been since set at liberty. The African woman has, it seems, been sent away from Rio de Janeiro in the steamer to the northern ports on the 8th instant, and the child has been withheld from her.

This appears to be one of those cases of which it has lately been my painful duty to bring more than one instance under your Excellency's notice, of a criminal attempt, on the part of persons in the higher walks of life, to reduce free negroes to slavery, and I therefore beg to represent to your Excellency the urgency of instituting a searching inquiry into all the circumstances connected with it, with the view of bringing those who may have offended so grievously against the law to condign punishment. I consider likewise that this inquiry ought to extend to the conduct of the authorities who did not cause the child to be delivered up to her mother.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 104.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing a translation of a note dated the 8th instant, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, in reply to mine of the 3rd of March last, on the subject of the liberated Africans, of which a copy was transmitted in my despatch of the 13th of the same month.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Limpo de Abreo evades my question concerning the appropriation of the accumulated produce of the wages of the free Africans let out to private individuals, and that his answers on other points are not satisfactory.

I have not, however, in the note which I have this day addressed to his Excellency, and of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, entered into a detailed discussion of his observations; but I have confined myself, with a view to promote the emancipation of the free Africans in the public offices and establishments, to making some remarks upon his sixth observation, that they are not comprised in the Imperial Decree of the 28th December, 1853, as regards exemption from service, they being bound even after the fourteen years, up to the time of re-exportation, earning, however, after that term a certain amount of wages.

I regret to have to observe that the Brazilian Government do not appear to be as much inclined to do justice to the large body of so-called liberated Africans, as they are to prevent the importation of fresh Africans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 104.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 8, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., duly received the note which, on the 3rd of March last, Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to him, and in which

CLASS B.

he renews the subject of his note of the 13th of January last, and makes some fresh observations on the contents of the note of the Undersigned of the 3rd of February.

The Undersigned, taking into consideration all the observations made by Mr. Howard in his above-mentioned note, which he does not think it necessary to reproduce, has the honour to submit, in reply :

1st. That although the term "emancipation" may be taken as synonymous with "liberty," and in a different sense from that in which it was used in the Decree of the 28th of December last, that given to it in the Decree, is, however, the juridical one—the one intended to be given to it by the Imperial Government; and not only founded on analogy with orphans, but also on the agreement of that Decree with the instructions of the 29th of October, 1834, and the 19th of November, 1835, under which the liberty of imported Africans was recognised and declared from the moment of importation. Emancipation, in the sense in which this word is used in the Decree of the 28th of December, is not synonymous with liberty; it merely signifies that the Africans, otherwise free, may withdraw from under the authority of those to whom their services had been confided.

2nd. That the emancipation which the said Decree establishes within the term and under the conditions laid down, does not do away with the idea of re-exportation, the residence in assigned places being rather a preparatory measure for that end, which the Imperial Government does not lose sight of.

3rd. That as regards the analogy between the Alvará of the 25th of January, 1818, and the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, which was invoked by the Imperial Government in justification of the term of fourteen years for the emancipation of free Africans, upon which point Mr. Howard observes that that Alvará contained a clause which was omitted in the Decree, which was, that the term of fourteen years would be reduced by two or more years in favour of those Africans who, through merit and good conduct, should be worthy of enjoying before the term the full right of their liberty, the Undersigned has to remark that that omission does not destroy the analogy based on the general rule of that Alvará, and that, although not mentioned in the Decree, it is, notwithstanding, not beyond the power of the Imperial Government to confer that favour on such Africans as are worthy of it.

4th. That the instructions of the 29th of October, 1834, and the 19th of November, 1835, did not prescribe a fixed term for the duration of service: they bound the party who farmed them to deliver the Africans, either for re-exportation, or when it was found that they did not fulfil their contract; so that, on the contrary, and exclusively of these two circumstances, the services might be permanent and for life, were it not for the provision of the Decree, which fixed the term of fourteen years.

5th. That notwithstanding the term fixed by the said Decree, the two circumstances referred to were not annulled thereby, and the farmers are still bound to deliver the Africans before the term of fourteen years, either for the purpose of re-exportation, or when the farmers do not fulfil the conditions of the contract.

6th. That the free Africans employed in the public offices and establishments are not comprised in the Decree of the 28th of December as regards exemption of service, they being bound, even after the fourteen years, up to the time of re-exportation, earning, however, after that term, a certain amount of wages to be awarded to them.

7th. That the Imperial Government, for the reasons stated in the note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to Mr. Howard on the 3rd of February of this year, cannot dispense with the form of a petition being made by the Africans, either by themselves or through their Curator, in order that their emancipation shall take place; and that for those reasons it continues to consider that that form is necessary, repeating, however, the assurance that the Decree in question shall not be eluded in consequence of it.

Finally, that the case of the African Claudio, which Mr. Howard produces as a ground for his apprehensions, does not appear to be a case

in point, seeing that it is anterior to the Decree, and that it relates to re-exportation, and not to emancipation.

The Undersigned, in thus replying to Mr. Howard's note above mentioned, avails, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 104.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 8th instant, in answer to mine of the 3rd of March last, on the question of the emancipation of the liberated Africans, and to inform you that I will transmit a copy of it for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whose approval of the first note which I addressed, on the 13th of January last, to your Excellency on that subject, has been already signified to me.

Without entering into a discussion concerning the major part of your Excellency's remarks, which would entail repetitions on my part, I cannot but notice your sixth remark, "that the free Africans employed in the public offices and establishments are not comprised in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, as regards exemption of service, they being bound, even after the fourteen years, up to the time of reexportation, earning, however, after that term, a certain amount of wages to be awarded to them."

With regard to this remark I beg to observe, that the 5th Article of the Alva á of the 26th of January, 1818, prescribed for these Africans likewise the term of fourteen years' service, with the abatement to which I referred in my note of the 3rd of March, and which is admitted by your Excellency still to hold good; that although the idea of reexportation is, as you state in your last note, not lost sight of, yet that measure is now indefinitely postponed; that, consequently, for a great part of the liberated Africans employed in the public offices there is no prospect of their complete emancipation; that they will therefore enjoy a less degree of liberty than those hired out to private individuals whenever the measure affecting them may be entirely carried out; that the 7th Article of the regulation for the Mixed Commissions, annexed to the Additional Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, whilst providing that the slaves receiving certificates of emancipation from the Mixed Commission should be delivered over to the Government on whose territory the Commission which shall have emancipated them shall be established, to be employed as servants or free labourers, adds the words, "each of the two Governments binds itself to guarantee the liberty of such portion of these individuals as shall be respectively consigned to it." Now, it certainly could not have been the intention of the Contracting Parties to prolong the period of service of the Africans consigned to them to the extent to which that of the negroes employed in the public offices in Brazil has been, and it appears will still be, protracted. That such has not been the course followed by the British Government is well known to your Excellency.

Under the circumstances, that the greater part, no doubt, of the Africans so employed were liberated by the Mixed Commission, I consider that I am authorized in interesting myself in their fate, and more particularly in the emancipation of those amongst them who were captured by British cruizers and delivered over to the Brazilian authorities.

Your Excellency alleges that the case of the African, Claudio, which I cited in my note of the 3rd of March, does not appear to be a case in point, seeing that it is anterior to the Decrees of 1853, and that it relates to reexportation and not emancipation. If so, it may be asked why he was not furnished with pecuniary assistance to enable him to leave the country.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

The Chevalier de Macedo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 28.)

*Légation Impériale du Brésil,
Londres, le 27 Juin, 1854.*

My Lord,

JE viens de lire, avec douleur et surprise, dans les journaux de ce matin, l'extrait des discours prononcés à la Chambre des Communes par Lord John Russell et Lord Palmerston en réponse aux opinions exprimées par Mr. Milner Gibson et Mr. Bright à l'égard de l'opportunité et justice de révoquer le Bill connu sous le titre de "Brazilian Slave Trade Act of 1845." C'est surtout contre certaines assertions de Lord Palmerston que je dois protester.

Il est inutile de revenir à la question du droit que pouvait avoir le Gouvernement Anglais de passer cet Act. La discussion sur ce point sera toujours interminable ; mais le jugement des autorités les plus compétentes a été dès l'origine prononcé en faveur du Brésil. Ces autorités sont :—

1. Lord Aberdeen et le Duc de Wellington, qui ont combattu et même protesté après son adoption contre une semblable mesure, basée sur les mêmes prétentions, et en circonstances identiques, proposée au Parlement en 1839 contre le Portugal.

2. L'éminent jurisconsulte Anglais, et depuis Chancelier du Royaume, Lord Truro, qui a combattu le Bill, en 1845, à la Chambre des Communes.

3. Enfin la Suprême Cour d'Appel, composée des quinze Grands Juges de l'Angleterre, réunis à Westminster, laquelle, dans le cas de l'équipage la "*Felicidade*," en 1845, a nié aux autorités Anglaises le droit de visiter et capturer les bâtiments Brésiliens se livrant à la Traite des Nègres.

Laissant donc à ce Bill de 1845 son caractère d'un expédient politique accepté par Lord Aberdeen contre ses principes et à son grand regret, je commencerai par relever l'erreur dans laquelle se trouvent Lord Palmerston et Lord John Russell quand ils croient que, dans les circonstances présentes, le Gouvernement Britannique peut le laisser subsister sans manquer à ses engagements. Dans la dépêche adressée au Ministre Britannique à Rio par Lord Aberdeen, datée du 2 Juillet, 1845, destinée à être montrée au Gouvernement de Brésil et publiée par ordre du Parlement, on trouve l'engagement suivant :—

"They (Her Majesty's Government) will be ready, so soon as any measures of the Brazilian Government shall enable them to do so, to recommend to Parliament to repeal the Bill now about to be brought forward ; but whilst the present state of things continues, and until either the Slave Trade of Brazil shall have entirely ceased, or the Brazilian Government shall have entered into an engagement with Great Britain jointly to carry into execution the declared intentions of the parties to the Convention of 1826, that course will not be open to them."

Il n'y a pas le moindre doute que les conditions de cette promesse ne se soient vérifiées. Et dans une chose aussi délicate il n'est pas permis de croire qu'on ait le droit d'étendre le "so soon as" de cette dépêche à une période encore indéfiniment éloignée. La cause alléguée pour adopter ce Bill, c'est-à-dire, la continuation de la Traite par contrebande en large échelle, a cessé d'exister. La contrebande ne se fait plus absolument depuis près de deux ans, et depuis quatre qu'elle était déjà descendue à des proportions comparativement insignifiantes.

Lord John Russell a dit qu'aucune disposition de Traité ne pourrait remplacer le Bill ; cependant il faut répéter qu'un Traité créerait des droits, le Bill n'est basé que sur celui de la force. C'est un état de choses odieux, et qui le devient davantage dès que la cause alléguée pour user de ce droit de la force a disparu.

Lord Palmerston, aussi bien que Lord John Russell, ont attribué la cessation de la Traite au Brésil à ce Bill de 1845 ; cependant l'effet de ce Bill a été justement le contraire ; la Traite a triplé de force après son adoption. C'est-à-dire, que le nombre de nègres importés par contrebande au Brésil, qui, dans les années précédentes, montait à peine à 20,000, immédiatement après le Bill a monté, en 1846, à 50,000 ; en 1847, à 56,000 ; en

1848, à 60,000, et en 1849 à 54,000. La raison en est simple. Il n'est possible de reprimer la Traite que par l'action des autorités Brésiliennes. Les croiseurs Anglais ont de tout temps été impuissants. Le Bill ôtait toute force et tout prestige à celles des autorités Brésiliennes, qui, bravant le torrent de l'opinion, cherchaient à s'opposer à la Traite.

L'étendue du mal elle-même a produit son remède en faisant naître une juste terreur des conséquences qu'à l'avenir préparait un tel état de choses. C'est ainsi qu'une réaction s'est montrée dans l'opinion publique, et qu'une mesure législative efficace pour réprimer la Traite a été proposée aux Chambres dès la session de 1848. A la fin de cette année un Ministère nouveau se formait adoptant comme programme de sa politique, entre autres mesures, celle de la répression efficace de la Traite. Une dissolution de la Chambre a fait que la session de 1849 n'a commencé qu'en Janvier 1850. Les Ministres de la Justice et des Affaires Etrangères ont tout de suite à l'ouverture des Chambres sollicité la prompt adoption des mesures législatives nécessaires. La défaveur contre la Traite a été augmentée par l'apparition de la fièvre jaune importée à Bahia par un bâtiment négrier.

Si donc ce Bill a eu quelque part à l'abolition effective de la Traite, c'était indirectement en la faisant gagner les plus larges proportions qu'elle avait jamais atteintes.

C'est donc un fait avoué et constaté que la contrebande malheureusement se faisait en grand, que le Gouvernement et les magistrats étaient impuissants à réprimer ce que tout le monde favorisait et qu'une fatale erreur croyait convenable au pays.

La Traite des Nègres n'est pas le crime des Portugais ou des Brésiliens seuls. Toutes les nations Chrétiennes de l'Europe qui ont fondé des Colonies en Amérique ont commis le même pêché. La Grande Bretagne ne l'a cessé qu'en 1807, c'est-à-dire, longtemps après avoir perdu sa plus riche colonie à esclaves. Le Brésil n'a pas été le dernier, mais un des derniers à suivre son exemple ; mais il faut bien peser ceci,—le Brésil en toute chose s'est montré lent dans sa marche, mais elle a toujours été sûre, et il n'a jamais reculé.

Il est permis de croire que laissé à lui seul sans aucune pression étrangère, l'abolition de la Traite viendrait d'elle-même comme est venue la liberté de la presse, le jury, le Gouvernement représentatif, la tolérance religieuse, et tant d'autres bienfaits d'une civilisation avancée. Dès 1823 l'abolition de la Traite avait été proposée à l'Assemblée Constituante.

Le Gouvernement du Brésil est connu par sa scrupuleuse exactitude à remplir ses engagements. Dans tous les pays cependant les Gouvernements sont obligés de se courber devant l'opinion, et celle-ci n'est pas toujours éclairée ni juste. A Lord Palmerston et à Lord John Russell eux-mêmes, tout dernièrement encore, le Parlement d'une nation qui contient 8,000,000 de Catholiques leur a refusé quelques livres sterlings pour donner dans les prisons les consolations et exhortations religieuses aux Catholiques.

Je passe à présent aux plus graves méprises de Lord Palmerston.

N'ayant plus rien à dire du discours de Lord John Russell, je dois manifester ma reconnaissance à la manière dont il s'est exprimé, selon ce que m'a rapporté une personne présente, sur les rapports que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir avec lui dans son passage très court au Foreign Office.

Lord Palmerston croit que le Bill de 1845 n'a été mis en exécution qu'en 1850 ; il se trompe. L'effet du Bill était uniquement d'autoriser la visite et capture des négriers sous pavillon Brésilien et de les soumettre au jugement des tribunaux Anglais de l'Amirauté et il a été mis immédiatement en exécution. En 1850 Lord Palmerston étant Ministre des Affaires Etrangères a ordonné que cette visite et capture fût faite même dans les eaux du Brésil. Ces ordres ont alors commencé à être exécutés avec une violence inouïe.

Le Gouvernement du Brésil a montré au Ministre Anglais que dans ce moment il était lui-même engagé à mettre sérieusement une fin à la Traite et qu'il n'obtiendrait pas les mesures nécessaires du Corps Législatif si ces violences continuaient : c'est alors que le Ministre et l'Amiral

Anglais consentirent, le 13 Juillet, à les suspendre. Lord Palmerston faisant allusion à cette suspension, a dit au Parlement : "The Slave Trade revived instantly, and for three or four months went on just as bad as before. This led to a remonstrance from our Minister, and a threat to put the Act in force." Evidemment la mémoire a failli au noble Lord, ou il a lu la note de Mr. Hudson au Gouvernement Brésilien datée du 11 Janvier, 1851, sans lire la réponse et sans examiner les faits. La suspension des violences a été accordée le 13 Juillet; le 4 Septembre une loi, dont les effets ont constaté la sagesse et la portée, avait passé dans les deux Chambres et était sanctionnée par l'Empereur; le 14 Octobre une Ordonnance Réglementaire du Gouvernement était publiée, des instructions étaient envoyées aux autorités chargées de son exécution, un choix convenable de ces autorités avait eu lieu, et l'application de ces mesures se faisait sentir. Aucune n'aurait pu être prise sous l'influence des violences des croiseurs Anglais.

Il est vrai que Mr. Hudson a adressé, le 11 Janvier, 1851, une note au Gouvernement Brésilien se plaignant de certains faits et déclarant qu'il ne continuait plus la suspension des violences. Le Ministre Brésilien lui a répondu montrant que plusieurs des faits dont il se plaignait étaient exagérés ou controuvés, que d'autres étaient antérieurs au 13 Juillet, d'autres absolument imaginaires, d'autres antérieurs à l'époque dans laquelle la loi nouvelle aurait pu recevoir son exécution dans les provinces; enfin, le Ministre montrait par chiffres significatifs sa bonne foi et les heureux résultats de ses efforts.

Dans les six mois de 1850, pendant lesquelles la suspension des violences des croiseurs avait eu lieu, le nombre des nègres débarqués par contrebande ne montait qu'à 5,000, tandis que dans les mois correspondants de 1847, ce nombre avait été de 24,000; dans ceux de 1848 de 27,000; dans ceux de 1849 de 23,000. Enfin que par les diligences des croiseurs et des autorités Brésiliennes, 1,200 Africains avaient été saisis et avaient reçu la liberté.

Ainsi rien au monde n'est plus incorrect que l'assertion échappée à Lord Palmerston, que j'ai plus haut citée textuellement.

Il est consolant d'ajouter qu'en 1851, le nombre total des nègres débarqués par contrebande a encore diminué et n'est monté qu'à 3,000. En vue de ces résultats le Ministère de Lord Derby et de Lord Malmesbury a dès le commencement de 1852 défendu aux croiseurs Anglais de faire des visites et des captures de bâtiments Brésiliens dans les eaux de l'Empire.

La répression a continué cependant à être faite par les croiseurs et les autorités Brésiliennes. En 1852 le nombre des nègres débarqués n'a pas excédé 700, et depuis Novembre 1852 jusqu'aux dernières nouvelles pas un seul débarquement de nègres n'a eu lieu sur les côtes du Brésil.

Depuis un certain temps le Bill de 1845 n'a reçu aucune application, parce que les croiseurs Anglais n'ont pu prendre aucun bâtiment négrier couvert avec les couleurs du Brésil; mais le Bill est encore en vigueur. Ce Bill est une offense aux droits du Brésil et n'a aucune autre base que la force. Le Gouvernement du Brésil a protesté contre son adoption et déclaré en toute occasion qu'il le considère comme un acte de guerre. Ne pouvant pas opposer la force à la force ouvertement, le Gouvernement Brésilien n'a jamais essayé d'employer des moyens d'hostilité qui pourraient atteindre le commerce et les intérêts des particuliers.

Cependant les négociants et fabricants Anglais sont toujours alarmés de cet état désagréable et délicat où se trouvent les rapports des deux Gouvernements. Je vois que quand les représentants des grands centres manufacturiers et commerçants de l'Angleterre montrent leurs inquiétudes dans le Parlement, les Ministres de Sa Majesté Britannique s'empressent de déclarer que leurs relations avec le Brésil sont très amicales.

Il paraît donc qu'une politique qui attend tout de la justice et de la générosité d'une nation forte et glorieuse n'est pas celle qui obtient le plus de succès, et que si au lieu de modifier ses tarifs de douane d'une manière favorable à la consommation des marchandises Anglaises, si au lieu de diminuer de deux-tiers les droits d'ancre et abolir tout droit différentiel sur la navigation, si au lieu d'accorder ce que le Gouvernement Britan-

nique demandait à l'égard des biens des Anglais morts *ab intestat*, si au lieu de concourir avec les vues du Gouvernement Britannique dans les rapports politiques avec d'autres pays, le Brésil avait adopté un système tout opposé, il aurait la chance de mettre de plus forts intérêts de son côté.

Il y a enfin dans le discours de Lord Palmerston des propositions qui me paraissent non seulement injustes mais impropres de ces relations amicales qui malgré tout subsistent encore entre les deux Gouvernements: "The Brazilian Government was composed of persons favourable to the Slave Trade." C'est au Ministère qui a eu la gloire de finir avec la Traite que ces paroles paraissent s'appliquer. Je dirai même que les rapports que j'ai eu l'honneur d'avoir toujours avec le noble Lord dès mon arrivée en ce pays, que les informations qu'il a reçues de moi avec plaisir et une partie desquelles il a reproduit dans son discours, m'ont toujours fait attendre de sa part des sentiments plus bienveillants et plus justes envers le Gouvernement que j'ai l'honneur de représenter.

Il se peut cependant, et on me l'a assuré, que le rapport fait par les journaux d'un débat qui a eu lieu après minuit contienne beaucoup d'inexactitudes et j'espère que de ce nombre soient plusieurs des propositions que je viens de combattre.

Il me reste, my Lord, une grâce à demander que j'espère vous m'accorderez, et est celle de donner à cette réponse, que mon devoir m'impose de faire aux deux savans et honorables Ministres, la même publicité qu'ont reçue leurs assertions.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) S. DE MACEDO

No. 106.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of May,* reporting that you had communicated to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs a copy of the Portaria inclosed in my despatch of the 22nd of March last, ordering the expulsion from Angola of the Brazilian slave-dealer Francisco Antonio Flores; and I have to acquaint you that I approve of the note which you addressed to Senhor de Abreo on the 8th of May, calling his Excellency's attention to the recent arrival in Rio de Janeiro of the notorious slave-dealer Jacintho Derizanz.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 107.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th May,† with its inclosures, on the subject of the schooner which was expected to arrive with a cargo of slaves on the coast of Rio Grande do Sul; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve the letter which you addressed to Senhor de Abreo on the 8th of May, and also your letter of the 6th of May to Rear-Admiral Henderson upon this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 97.

† No. 101.

No. 108.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of May,* inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 5th of May, respecting an advertisement offering for sale or hire an African negress, from 18 to 20 years of age, and who must therefore have been introduced into Brazil since the year 1831, in contravention of the Treaty of 1826, between Great Britain and Brazil, and in violation of Brazilian law; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having called the attention of Senhor de Abreo to this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 109.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 3, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of May,† inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 10th of May, on the subject of an attempt made by Senhor Soares, a merchant of Rio de Janeiro, to reduce to slavery the child of a free negress who had been in his service; and I have in reply to express to you my approval of your note to Senhor Limpo de Abreo on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 110.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 15th of May, inclosing copies of a correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the Africans in Brazil who were emancipated by the late British and Brazilian Court of Mixed Commission at Rio de Janeiro; and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve the note which you addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo on the 15th of May.

You will inform Senhor de Abreo that Her Majesty's Government approve the observations contained in your note in question, respecting the condition of the emancipated Africans; and you will state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government take the strongest interest in the fate of this unfortunate class of persons, and feel bound to secure for them all the protection and privileges to which they are entitled.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 111.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of despatches‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Hamburgh, respecting a Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which arrived at

* No. 102.

† No. 103.

‡ Nos. 241 and 242.

Bremen in April last, for the purpose of being fitted out in that port as a slaver. You will perceive, however, from the inclosed despatches, that the master of this vessel was compelled, by the opposition of the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburgh, to desist from his nefarious pursuit, and that he finally sold the vessel on the 27th ultimo to a Bremen merchant.

I have to instruct you to express to the Brazilian Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the zeal and vigilance displayed by the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburgh in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 112.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Chevalier de Macedo.

M. le Chevalier,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, referring to a debate which took place in the House of Commons on the previous day, respecting the Act of Parliament of 1845 relative to the Brazilian Slave Trade, and complaining that in the course of that debate Lord John Russell and Viscount Palmerston attributed the late cessation of that Traffic in Brazil to the operation of the Act in question.

I beg to observe to you in reply, that although the Brazilian Government are entitled to full credit for the praiseworthy exertions which they have made since 1851, for the suppression of the African Slave Trade; and although it would be much more agreeable to me to dwell exclusively upon what has been accomplished by Brazil in the last two years, and to pass over the painful records showing the course pursued during the previous twenty-six years in regard to the engagements which Brazil contracted towards Great Britain by the Treaty of the 23rd of November, 1826; yet I feel bound to express my sincere conviction that the existence of the Act of 1845, and more particularly its stringent enforcement in the year 1850, contributed materially to bring about the present improved state of affairs.

With regard to this point, I am able to appeal to the testimony of a distinguished Brazilian Minister, who took a prominent part in the discussions upon these latter transactions,—I mean Senhor Paulino de Souza, whose statement as to the salutary effect produced by the exertions of the British cruisers even in 1850, will be found in the accompanying report of a conversation which the late Mr. Southern had with his Excellency in 1852.

I have likewise to call your attention to the fact, that during the present year the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, of three expected arrivals of African slaves on the coast of Brazil. These communications were of course made to Mr. Howard, in order that he might apply to the British Naval Commanders on the station to afford their cooperation in preventing these apprehended violations of Treaty and Brazilian law; and it appears to me that if Her Majesty's Government were to propose to Parliament to repeal the Act of 1845, they would incur a serious responsibility, and wantonly deprive themselves of the means of effectually assisting the Brazilian Government with their support and countenance in counteracting the plots of the slave-dealers whose activity on the coast of Africa has of late been very much increased.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 112

Mr. Southern to the Earl of Malmesbury.

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 10, 1852.

WITH reference to the statement which has been made by the Brazilian Government, that the summary proceedings of the British cruisers had rather retarded than aided in the suppression of the Slave Trade on this coast, I think it right to report to your Lordship that in a conversation I had lately with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, his Excellency stated to me that he and his colleagues had found it vain to argue with their countrymen—slave-holders, buyers, and sellers—on grounds of philanthropy or political economy; that the line of argument the Ministry had used and found most efficient was this:—You see the number of years that the forces of the British Government have been directed towards the suppression of the Slave Trade; the treasures it has lavished on the means of intercepting that Traffic. We ourselves know by experience that no consideration holds it back when there is a question of the Slave Trade; and now that it appears resolved to put down the Slave Trade, and is proceeding with more vigour than ever, can we suppose that it will draw back? And if this state of things continues, what can come of it but war? And if we go to war with England, what will become of the capitalists, agriculturists, and merchants of Brazil?

His Excellency distinctly stated to me, that by such arguments as these, used in the very moment of the application of the strongest measures of the British cruisers against the Brazilian slave-traders, he and his colleagues had prevailed upon influential persons to support, or at least not to oppose, the Government in cooperating with the agents of Great Britain in their determined persecution of this inhuman commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY SOUTHERN.

No. 113.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter which was addressed to me on the 27th ultimo by the Chevalier de Macedo, Brazilian Minister at this Court, complaining of certain expressions made use of by Lord John Russell and by Viscount Palmerston in the House of Commons on the 26th ultimo, in speaking of the past conduct of the Brazilian Government with regard to the Slave Trade; together with a copy of the reply which I returned to M. de Macedo on the 6th instant.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 114.

The Chevalier de Macedo to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

*Légation Imperiale du Brésil,
Londres, le 7 Juillet, 1854.*

J'AI reçu la lettre dont vous m'avez honoré datée d'hier, en réponse à la mienne du 27 du mois dernier.

* Nos. 105 and 112.

Vous avez bien voulu prendre en considération une des observations que j'avais eu l'honneur de vous présenter, mais plusieurs autres paraissent n'avoir pas frappé votre attention et je suis obligé de revenir sur elles, malgré ma répugnance à trop impiéter sur votre temps.

D'après ce que le Lord Président du Conseil et le Secrétaire d'Etat du Département de l'Intérieur avaient dit à la Chambre des Communes, le Bill de 1845 paraît accepté par le Gouvernement du Brésil et j'avais prié votre Excellence d'éviter que le Parlement puisse délibérer sous cette impression. Ce Bill a toujours été considéré par le Gouvernement Impérial comme une agression, comme un acte de guerre. Si dans le temps le Gouvernement Britannique avait un motif pour la faire (ce que le Gouvernement Impérial n'admet pas), ce motif, au dire de tous et dans l'opinion de tous, a cessé. La condition marquée par Lord Aberdeen pour révoquer le Bill est réalisée. La continuation du Bill aujourd'hui n'est donc basée ni sur le droit, ni sur la nécessité, ni sur la politique. Elle est en opposition aux promesses faites au Brésil et aux conditions sous lesquelles le Parlement a adopté le Bill. Cependant le langage tenu devant le Parlement et resté sans réponse ne lui donne pas ce caractère.

Lord Palmerston a dit au Parlement que le Bill n'avait reçu d'exécution qu'en 1850 ; ceci est une confusion des effets du Bill avec certains ordres émanés de Lord Palmerston lui-même. Il faut que le Parlement ne reste pas sous cette impression erronée.

Lord Palmerston a dit encore qu'aussitôt qu'en Juillet 1850 le Bill a été suspendu par le Ministre et l'Amiral Britanniques (il voulait parler de ses ordres violents) la Traite a recommencé à se faire par contrebande avec la même force qu'auparavant. J'ai eu l'honneur de montrer par des chiffres et par des faits que le noble Lord s'est trompé.

Je dois encore rectifier un point comparativement de peu d'importance. Votre Excellence ainsi que Lord Palmerston datent l'abolition légale de la Traite au Brésil de la signature du Traité de 1826 ; ce n'est pas exact : le Traité stipulait que la Traite devait cesser en 1830. Elle a donc duré par contrebande vingt-et-un et non pas vingt-six ans.

Le Parlement, en règle générale, ne prend pas la responsabilité des relations diplomatiques ; ce qui se passe dans des pays éloignés lui mérite peu d'attention ; les discussions d'un autre Parlement sont oubliés facilement ; c'est l'induire en erreur que de lui laisser ignorer le véritable état des relations avec le Brésil par rapport à ces questions.

Les grands juges de l'Angleterre ont déclaré en 1845 dans le procès de l'équipage de la "*Felicidade*" que les croiseurs Anglais n'ayant aucun droit de saisir des bâtiments Brésiliens, les victimes d'une telle saisie, en résistant par le meurtre, usaient de leur droit de légitime défense et ne pouvaient pas être punies. Ainsi le Parlement fait une loi contre laquelle le pouvoir judiciaire déclare qu'on a le droit de résister.

Cet état de choses, my Lord, est par trop odieux et insoutenable. Cependant c'est ce que les Ministres de Sa Majesté Britannique déclarent préférable à toute stipulation de Traité !

J'arrive à présent, my Lord, au seul point sur lequel vous avez bien voulu me répondre. Le Gouvernement du Brésil a toujours soutenu et prouvé par les faits que ce ne sont ni les croiseurs Anglais, ni les tribunaux de l'Amirauté par conséquent, ni le Bill de 1845, ni les violences de 1850, qui ont mis fin à la Traite. Votre Excellence me dit, en réponse, que ces violences et ce Bill seuls ont décidé le Gouvernement Impérial à prendre les mesures qu'il a prises. En appui de cette assertion vous me présentez une lettre de Mr. Southern référant une conversation avec le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, le Sénateur Paulino de Souza, dans laquelle Mr. Southern assure que ce Ministre lui a dit que l'argument tiré de l'attitude de la Grande Bretagne seul était efficace pour convaincre les possesseurs, vendeurs et acheteurs de nègres de la nécessité d'abolir la Traite.

Quoique plus généralisé qu'il ne devait être, le rapport de Mr. Southern n'infirme en rien mon argumentation.

Les uns sont opposés à la Traite et même à l'esclavage par scrupules religieux ; les autres par principe de philanthropie et charité ; les autres par des considérations politiques de nationalité et organisation sociale.

Les uns ont de l'inquiétude à l'égard de la sécurité intérieure et extérieure du pays ; les autres reculent devant la réprobation universelle ; les autres tiennent pour sacré tout engagement pris sur la foi nationale ; les autres enfin sont impressionnés par la crainte des effets de l'inimitié d'une nation puissante qui en réclamant l'exécution d'un Traité est dans son droit.

Tout le monde conviendra sans peine que les arguments basés sur des considérations religieuses, morales, politiques et économiques trouvent toujours une réponse. Ce n'est pas la même chose pour les faits.

L'appréciation des forces relatives des deux pays est aisée ; la décision de la Grande Bretagne était manifestée par les actes ; l'étendue du mal qu'elle pouvait faire était facile à apprécier. Ceux donc qui n'étaient pas convaincus déjà par les autres arguments ont pu l'être par ces faits. Voilà ce que le Ministre Brésilien a dit à Mr. Southern. Ceci ne se trouve nullement en opposition avec l'allégation toujours faite par nous, que les violences Anglaises servaient pour donner aux négriers l'apparence (qu'ils savaient bien exploiter) de victimes de leur dévouement aux intérêts agricoles du Brésil. C'est très vrai que des hommes opposés en principe à la Traite croyaient qu'on ne devait pas céder à la pression étrangère. Ceci était une des plus grandes difficultés du Gouvernement Brésilien, et ce qui a le plus retardé le revirement de l'opinion publique prononcée si tard contre ce Trafique.

En admettant même que le Bill de 1845, et les ordres violents de 1850, considérés comme des actes de guerre, ont eu pour effet de décider ou de rendre possible la marche du Gouvernement Brésilien (ce qu'il n'admet pas tout-à-fait), s'ils ont pu procurer de nouveaux partisans à la cause de l'abolition de la Traite, ils ont déjà fait leur temps, ont produit ce qu'ils devaient produire. Dès qu'il n'y a plus de motif de guerre, ni de pression à exercer, le Bill doit être révoqué, comme l'ont été les ordres violents de 1850.

L'existence de ce Bill ne sert donc plus que pour continuer le mal qu'il a fait au commencement, c'est-à-dire, de donner de la popularité aux négriers et de faire considérer l'abolition de la Traite comme l'affaire des Anglais. On disait dans le temps, Ce n'est pas à la Traite qu'ils en veulent ; leur but est de détruire la marine marchande Brésilienne et d'intervenir dans les affaires intérieures du pays. La continuation du Bill donne l'apparence de vérité à cette accusation.

Il n'y a pas de doute que la Traite peut revivre si la surveillance des Gouvernements diminue. Cette surveillance sera plus efficace si elle a pour base la bonne intelligence entre les deux Gouvernements. J'ai des pleins pouvoirs et je suis prêt à signer un Traité pour établir cette bonne intelligence, mais je dois perdre l'espoir de tomber d'accord avec le Gouvernement Britannique si les Ministres de Sa Majesté Britannique croient que l'état actuel des choses est préférable à un Traité.

Je ne puis que m'étonner, my Lord, de vous voir tourner en argument contre le Brésil ce qui devait être pris comme une preuve éclatante de la bonne foi du Gouvernement et de son désir de marcher d'accord avec la Grande Bretagne. Celle-ci a des Traités réglant le droit de visite avec presque toutes les nations commerçantes. Les négriers se couvrent de tous les pavillons comme ils appartiennent à tous les pays. Le Gouvernement du Brésil s'empresse d'avertir les autorités Britanniques des manœuvres des négriers qu'il découvre pour que dans la part qui leur revient elles tâchent de les empêcher de réussir. La conclusion que votre Excellence tire de cette manière d'agir c'est que sans l'état violent et odieux créé par le Bill, la Grande Bretagne serait privée des moyens d'aider le Gouvernement du Brésil à contrecarrer ces manœuvres ! Voilà une manière de raisonner qui aurait pu me faire perdre tout espoir d'obtenir justice, si je n'avais pas tant de confiance dans celle de la cause que je plaide, et dans la loyauté du Gouvernement Britannique.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) S. DE MACEDO.

No. 115.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith a translation of that part of the report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to the Legislature, dated the 13th instant, which relates to the Slave Trade, together with a list of the documents thereto annexed.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Limpo de Abreo enters at some length into several of the transactions which have taken place between the Brazilian Government and Her Majesty's Legation at this Court, relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade, and relates the fruitless endeavours which the Imperial Government have made to induce Her Majesty's Government to repeal the British Acts of Parliament of the years 1839 and 1845, and to abandon the right of search of Brazilian merchant-vessels on the high seas.

I have likewise the honour to inclose a translation of that part of the report of the Minister of Justice, Senhor Nabuco de Araujo, to the Legislature, dated the 15th instant, which relates to the Slave Trade. The language employed in this report, in respect to the necessity of the vigorous suppression of the Slave Trade, is equally satisfactory with that held by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Your Lordship will observe that Senhor Nabuco de Araujo states that it would be erroneous to suppose that the Slave Trade is completely extinguished in this country, seeing the attempts which have been made to carry it on.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

 Inclosure in No. 115.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Legislature, May 13, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Imperial Government has employed all the means in its power, and all the legal resources at its disposal, to prevent the reappearance of the Slave Trade; and in this object it has had the zealous cooperation of the authorities of the Empire.

The notorious fact of not a single landing of Africans, since December 1852, is due to the active vigilance and efforts of those authorities.

Our Agents, in countries which the slave-traders have endeavoured to select as a theatre for their infamous machinations, have exercised an equal vigilance, and have prevented, in concert with the British authorities, any attempt at the continuation of the Slave Trade.

This result is extremely satisfactory; and if it is not impossible that some case of importation should take place on one point or other of our extensive coast, where, notwithstanding the well-combined measures adopted, that crime cannot always be prevented, it can be asserted that such an event will not fail to be followed by the most energetic measures for the punishment of whoever may have taken part in it, and for the apprehension and full liberation of the Africans.

Various indications have come to the knowledge of the Imperial Government of a continuance of these nefarious speculations; but the danger to which they are exposed in the Empire has made them take another direction.

The Government learned that two vessels were being prepared at Monte Video, apparently destined for the illicit Slave Trade.

Our authorities there and at Buenos Ayres were on the alert, and have not spared any efforts to frustrate these and any similar attempts.

Intelligence having been received here that a Portuguese vessel, called

the "*Laura*," (formerly "*Rosa*,") suspected of being destined for the Slave Trade, had touched at the Islands of Terceira and Madeira from Lisbon, this Office immediately addressed the Department of Justice, and issued circulars to the Presidents of the maritime Provinces to cause the utmost vigilance of the respective authorities to be directed to that vessel.

It had been stated that Portuguese vessels and others cleared out of the port of Bahia, partly laden with rum and tobacco, and having beneath their cargo water-casks and other articles destined for the Slave Trade: orders were immediately sent to the President of that Province to cause the minutest investigations to be made with a view of ascertaining the truth of that report.

From the minute investigations proceeded to by the President of Bahia, it turned out that nothing had taken place to justify the information given on the subject. The utmost vigilance was also recommended to him regarding the Sardinian schooner "*Iride*" and the Portuguese schooner "*Veloz*," on which suspicion likewise existed.

The Imperial Government learned, by communications which it received from Lisbon, that two Portuguese vessels, the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," had sailed from the Douro for the coast of Africa under strong suspicions of their being destined for the Slave Trade.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation subsequently transmitted to the Government the same intelligence, adding that there were reasons for believing that any opportunity would be taken advantage of for an attempt to land Africans on the coast of Brazil.

The Imperial Government considered it to be its duty to issue, with regard to these two vessels, repeated orders to the authorities along the coast of the Empire, in the event of those vessels approaching any point of the coast, to proceed at once to the apprehension of the Africans, and to render effective the responsibility of the captain, the mate, and all the crew, in conformity with the laws in force.

The Imperial Government lately received information that these vessels had actually gone to the coast of Africa to take in a cargo of negroes; but it was at the same time informed that they were destined, not for the ports of this Empire, but for the Havana.

The correspondence which passed with Her Britannic Majesty's Legation on all these subjects; appears from the documents in Annex B.

Many other measures have been adopted for rendering effectual the suppression of the Slave Trade.

All these circumstances, and the prompt measures which have been taken by the Imperial Government, must have convinced that of Her Britannic Majesty, how difficult it will be for the Slave Trade to be renewed in Brazil, and that conviction may be deduced from the manner in which that Government has acknowledged the honourable proceeding of the authorities of the country.

I regret, however, Gentlemen, to have to communicate to you the non-revocation, as yet, of the Acts of the British Parliament of 1839 and 1845, against the existence of which we have represented, and which so seriously offend our national honour.

The Imperial Government has called the most serious attention of the Imperial Legation in London to this matter, but its efforts have not as yet brought about a solution decorous to Brazil.

This question has also been treated at this Court with Her Britannic Majesty's Legation.

The following circumstance gave rise to the discussion :

The English brig of war "*Bonetta*," cruising off the coast of the Empire, visited off the Island of Marambaia, the national schooner "*Lagunense*" on its voyage to this port, and opened on that occasion an official letter sealed with the arms of the Empire, and addressed to the Administrator of the Outward Custom-house of this capital, and which contained the manifest of the schooner's cargo.

The Imperial Government addressed Her Britannic Majesty's Legation in consequence, protesting against such a proceeding, and demanding the necessary measures on the part of the Legation to prevent the recurrence of similar unjustifiable acts.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation declared, in reply to the demand of the Imperial Government, that the Admiral commanding the British Forces on this station had made known to it that he had ordered the officers in command of British cruizers employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil, not to open in future any papers sealed with the official seal of a Brazilian authority, observing, however, that as the character and destination of Brazilian merchant-vessels, visited on suspicion of being engaged in the illicit Slave Trade, could only be judged of by means of the documents which shall be open and accessible to the visiting officer, the commanders of British cruizers cannot be held responsible for an inconvenient detention to which any vessel may be subjected, in consequence of the non-exhibition of documents, such as the manifest of the cargo, which shall be closed and sealed, and of which there shall be no copy or duplicate, properly authenticated, and open for examination.

Thus, Her Britannic Majesty's Government has not yet given up the exercise of the right of search on the high seas, against which Brazil has protested; but the Imperial Government trusts that the spirit of justice will ultimately influence the British Government.

A Project of Law commenced to be discussed last year in the Senate, extending the competency of the Auditors of Marine charged with the trial of Slave Trade offences under the Law of the 4th September, 1850, and the regulation issued for carrying it into execution. The occurrence which took place in December of last year, renders necessary the adoption of measures to prevent impunity in special cases which were not foreseen in those Acts.

List of Documents published in Annex B to the above Report.

Correspondence respecting two vessels said to be equipping at Monte Video for the Slave Trade.

No. 1. DESPATCH from the Consul at St. Catherine's to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, dated 2nd August, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Jerningham's despatch of 11th August, 1853).

No. 2. Note from the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty to the Imperial Government, of 13th September, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Jerningham's despatch of 13th September, 1853).

Copy of Representation of Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Monte Video of 3rd September, 1853 (likewise inclosed).

No. 3. Note of the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 17th September, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Jerningham's despatch of 1st October, 1853).

Correspondence on the opening of the Manifest of the schooner "*Lagunense*," sealed with the Imperial arms, by the English brig "*Bonetta*."

No. 4. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 25th October, 1853.

Document referred to therein.

No. 5. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 28th October, 1853.

No. 6. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 3rd December, 1853.

Letter from the Admiral referred to therein.

(Nos. 4 to 6 inclusive were sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 3rd December, 1853.)

No. 7. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 11th December, 1853 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 14th December, 1853).

No. 8. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, 16th December, 1853.

No. 9. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 30th December, 1853 (Nos. 8 and 9 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 1st December, 1854).

Correspondence on the Portuguese vessel "*Laura*," formerly "*Rosa*," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

No. 10. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 10th November, 1853.

Document referred to therein.

No. 11. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 17th November, 1853 (Nos. 10 and 11 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 19th November, 1853).

Correspondence on information that Portuguese and other vessels cleared out at Bahia, partly laden with rum and tobacco, having beneath articles for the Slave Trade.

No. 12. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 12th December, 1853.

No. 13. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 14th December, 1853.

No. 14. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 27th December, 1853.

(Nos. 12 to 14 inclusive sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th January, 1854.)

No. 15. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, 4th February, 1854.

Three inclosures (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 11th February, 1854).

No. 16. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 8th April, 1854 (see Mr. Howard's despatch of 10th April, 1854).

Correspondence on two Portuguese vessels, the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which left the Douro for the coast of Africa, to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

No. 17. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 21st January, 1854.

No. 18. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, 23rd January, 1854.

Circular referred to therein.

No. 19. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 27th January, 1854.

(Nos. 17 to 19 inclusive sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 12th February, 1854.)

No. 20. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, 11th April, 1854.

No. 21. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 13th April, 1854.

(Nos. 20 and 21 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th April, 1854.)

Project of Law for extending the competency of Auditors of Marine for trial of persons mentioned in Article III of Law of 4th September, 1850.

No. 22. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 10th January, 1854 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th January, 1854).

No. 23. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 11th January, 1854, acknowledging receipt of No. 22.

No. 116.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of that part of the report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to the Legislature, dated the 13th instant, which relates to the question of the emancipation of the free Africans, and to the correspondence exchanged between his Excellency and myself on that subject.

The documents annexed to this report will be seen from the list appended to the inclosure in this despatch.

My last note to Senhor de Abreo on the subject, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch to your Lordship of the 15th instant, the day on which it was written, being of a date posterior to the report, is not included in them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 116.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Legislature, May 13, 1854.

(Translation.)

ON occasion of the publication of the Decree No. 1,303 of the 28th of December of last year, by which His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to ordain that the free Africans who should have served private individuals for the space of fourteen years, should be emancipated on their petition, with the obligation, however, of residing in such places as should be designated by the Government, and of taking an occupation or service on being paid a salary, Her Britannic Majesty's Legation addressed itself to the Imperial Government, making some observations on the term fixed in the said Decree for the acquisition of the right to emancipation by the said Africans—a right which they have so long possessed; and expressing its opinion not only that that benefit should be extended to all free Africans, without restriction, as regards the time of service, but, moreover, that they should be relieved from the necessity of petitioning for their liberty, as required by the said Decree, and that the Imperial Government should take upon itself to emancipate them independently of that clause.

From the correspondence which ensued on this subject, and which will be found in Annex B, will be seen the development which it received.

List of Documents published in Annex B to the above Report.

No. 24. Decree No. 1,303 of 28th December, 1853.

No. 25. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 13th January, 1854.

(Nos. 24 and 25 sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13th January, 1854.)

No. 26. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 3rd February, 1854 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 11th February, 1854).

No. 27. Note from Her Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Imperial Government, of 3rd March, 1854.

CLASS B.

Inclosure therein (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 13h March, 1854).

No. 28. Note from the Imperial Government to Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, of 8th May, 1854 (sent home in Mr. Howard's despatch of 15th May, 1854).

No. 117.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 10, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 11th ultimo,* I had the honour of transmitting the copy of a note which I addressed on the 11th ultimo to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of the arrival here, on board the American vessel "*General Pierce*," of the notorious slave-trader Jacintho Derizanz. I now beg to inclose the copy of a memorandum which I delivered on the 18th of the same month to the Minister of the United States at this Court, Mr. Trousdale, stating the reasons there existed for suspecting that Derizanz had come here for the purpose of planning a new Slave Trade expedition, and that the real destination of the "*General Pierce*" might be the coast of Africa, and suggesting that the United States' Consul (Mr. Robert G. Scott) should be instructed to watch the proceedings of Derizanz and his associates, and that the Commanders of the United States' ships of war in these waters should be made acquainted with the facts I had mentioned, with a view to their cooperation should it be required.

I called, on the following day, on the Consul, Mr. Scott, and finding that Mr. Trousdale had not sent him my memorandum, I communicated it to him, and discussed the subject at length with him. The result of my first interview with him is recorded in the despatch which I addressed to Admiral Henderson on the 26th of May, and of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy. Your Lordship will perceive from this despatch that Mr. Scott acted up to my wishes in the most cordial, frank, and highly honourable manner, and lost no time in taking active measures with a view to frustrate any attempt to carry on the Slave Trade under American colours, and in placing himself in communication with the American Commodore, D. Salter, of the United States' frigate "*Savannah*," now in this harbour, who, on his side, showed the most laudable anxiety to cooperate towards that object, as reported by Mr. Scott, and as testified by Admiral Henderson in the despatch which he addressed to me on the 27th ultimo in reply to mine of the preceding day, and of which I likewise beg to forward herewith a copy.

I have now the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that the measures thus taken, aided, no doubt, by the knowledge which Derizanz must have acquired that the Brazilian authorities were likewise watching his proceedings, have been so far crowned with success as to frustrate the project there is every reason for supposing that he entertained of entering, on the present occasion, upon a new slave-trading undertaking connected with this country; Derizanz himself having thought proper to abscond, and having, it is believed, left Rio de Janeiro secretly a short time ago, in an American vessel, for the United States, and his reputed vessel, the "*General Pierce*," having sailed yesterday for Baltimore, freighted by a commercial house here, with a legal cargo of coffee, and with the Italian styling himself Salvador de Carlos, referred to in my despatch of the 26th ultimo to Admiral Henderson, on board.

It remains for me to state, that I have informed the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs of my transactions with the American Representatives

* No. 97.

here, and that they have met his concurrence; indeed, the President of the Council, Viscount Paraná, had expressed to me the wish that I should place myself in communication with the American Legation on the subject of the "*General Pierce*," which I had already decided to do.

Mr. Scott has quitted Rio de Janeiro for the United States on leave of absence, but previously to his departure he assured me that his son, Captain Scott, whom he has left in charge of the United States' Consulate, entertains the same feelings and would continue to act in the same sense as himself in the affair of this vessel, or in any other case which might occur; an assurance which Captain Scott has repeated to me himself in the most friendly and emphatic terms.

I understand that Derizanz' old slave-trading associates here were apprehensive of committing themselves, at a period like the present, when the attention of the Brazilian Government is particularly directed towards the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 117.

Memorandum.

A NOTORIOUS slave-trader, Jacintho Derizanz, who gives out that he is now a citizen of the United States, has lately arrived at Rio de Janeiro on board the United States' vessel the "*General Pierce*," of which he is said to be the owner, and is accompanied by two other persons who have been connected with Slave Trade transactions—a United States' citizen named Jefferson, and an Italian whose name has not been correctly ascertained.

Jacintho Derizanz is a Venezuelan by birth, but has long carried on the Slave Trade as a naturalized Brazilian subject. He has been known, between 1848 and 1851, to have commanded, or to have been connected with, the slave-vessels "*União*," "*Amizade*," "*Democrat*," "*Eunomus*," "*Sereia*," and "*Providencia*," which carried on the Slave Trade between the coast of Africa and Brazil, and was principally connected with the notorious slave-trader Tomas da Costa Ramos.

On the 9th July, 1851, Jacintho Derizanz was taken outside Rio harbour in the steam-tug "*Sarah*" by Her Majesty's ship "*Cormorant*," when going out to take command of the slaver "*Valoroso*" waiting outside, and bound on a slave-voyage to the coast of Africa. Since that epoch Jacintho Derizanz is said to have been carrying on the Slave Trade with Havana.

His arrival here in the "*General Pierce*," in company with other slave-traders, and his intercourse with suspected persons resident in Rio Janeiro, induce a strong belief that he is planning a further slave-trading expedition, and that the real destination of the "*General Pierce*" may be the coast of Africa.

Under these circumstances, and persuaded of the continuance of the interest which the United States' Legation has ever taken in frustrating the Slave Trade projects of American citizens in Brazil, Mr. Howard takes the liberty of suggesting to the Honourable Mr. Trousdale the expediency of the United States' Consul at Rio being instructed to watch the movements of Jacintho Derizanz and his associates, and to take such measures as may prevent his carrying his proposed projects into execution, and it is moreover left to his Excellency to judge of the propriety of making the above facts known to the commanders of the United States' ships-of-war in these waters for their guidance, should their cooperation be required.

Rio de Janeiro, May 18, 1854.

Inclosure 2 in No. 117.

Mr. Howard to Rear-Admiral Henderson.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith, for your information, the copy of a memorandum which I have delivered to the Minister, Mr. Trousdale, and to the Consul, Mr. Robert C. Scott, of the United States of North America, relative to the suspicious circumstances, as connected with the Slave Trade, under which the notorious slave-trader, Don Jacintho Derizanz, who was taken on board the steam-tug "*Sarah*" off the harbour of Rio de Janeiro by Her Majesty's ship "*Cormorant*" in 1851, returned to this port a short time ago on board the North American vessel "*General Pierce*," of which he is stated to be the owner.

I am not aware that Mr. Trousdale has taken any step in the matter; but I, as well as Mr. Consul Westwood, have had several interviews with Mr. Scott, who has met my wishes in the most satisfactory manner, and has not only given me the assurance that he will cordially and cheerfully assist me and all others in arresting the renewal of the Slave Trade on the coast of Brazil, or elsewhere, under the American flag, and carried on by American citizens, but has, since I first spoke to him on the subject, been actively employed in making inquiries and in taking preventive measures against the designs of Derizanz and his associates.

Mr. Scott informs me that he has communicated the information which I had given him, as well as Mr. Hudson's correspondence, relative to Derizanz, contained in the Parliamentary Slave Trade Blue Book for 1851 and 1852, pp. 208 and 235, to Commodore Salter of the United States' frigate "*Savannah*," who shares his suspicions relative to the objects of the "*General Pierce*," who has offered to cooperate for the purpose of frustrating them, and who has directed the United States' armed brig "*Bainbridge*" to be ready to put to sea at any moment in order to watch her.

Commodore Salter fears, however, that if the "*General Pierce*" should get herself towed out of port, the "*Bainbridge*" might not be able to overtake her, and he is therefore anxious to know whether you would be disposed to allow a steamer belonging to Her Majesty to tow the "*Bainbridge*" out of harbour, and upon this point I should be obliged to you, either to communicate confidentially with the Commodore or with myself.

Mr. Scott informs me that the "*General Pierce*" has a register granted by Act of the Congress of the United States, and that her owner's name appears to be James Hall, and that her papers therefore seem to be in order, but that the statement of her movements is calculated to excite suspicion. She is stated to have taken out emigrants from the United States to Liberia, and to have proceeded thence to the Cape Verd Islands, from whence she arrived here with a cargo of salt; and the master explains the existence of 20,000 cigars on board, by saying that he brought them from the United States. The presumption appears to be that the vessel has, in the meantime, carried on the Slave Trade with the Havana.

As to Derizanz, who was accompanied on board the "*General Pierce*," nominally also as passengers, by an American of the name of Jefferson, a known slave-trader, and an Italian who calls himself Salvador de Carlos, and is, I understand, a Genoese slave-trading captain; he now gives his name as Luayza.

Mr. Scott informs me, that previous to my interview with him on the 19th instant, Derizanz had sent the Italian on board the "*Savannah*" to show a declaration, purporting to have been made by him in 1853, however under another name, of his intention to become an American citizen, and to inquire whether he could count upon the protection of the American guns?

Commodore Salter referred him to Mr. Scott, with a view to the establishment of his nationality, and refused in the meantime to have anything to do with him.

The same Italian afterwards applied to Mr. Scott on behalf of Derizanz, but Mr. Scott, who was not then acquainted with Derizanz's antecedents, observed upon the necessity of all foreigners complying with the laws of the country to which they might come, and also declined to give him a promise of any special protection, and insisted upon his establishing his identity. Matters were in this state when I first called upon Mr. Scott.

I may add that Derizanz, to whose movements and proceedings I had, as early as the 8th instant, called the attention of the Brazilian Government, has kept out of the way himself, and it is even a question whether he may not already have left this port. I believe him to be the same person who, either personally or through the Italian, offered Prince Labanoff to take out the "*Rogneda*" schooner, under American colours, and to do business with the Prince, the latter retaining the ownership of the vessel, a proposal which was not listened to by the Prince.

You will perceive from the foregoing statement that the question of the "*General Pierce*" is now in the hands of the American authorities here, but I have thought it right to give you the information in my possession on the subject of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 117.

Rear-Admiral Henderson to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

"*Madagascar, Rio de Janeiro, May 27, 1854.*"

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of yesterday's date, relative to the North American schooner "*General Pierce*," and the supposed designs of the reported well-known slave-trader, Don Jacintho Derizanz.

Having in consequence thereof this day communicated confidentially on the subject with Commodore Salter, commanding the United States' squadron on this station, and offered to place Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Rifleman*" at his disposal to assist or cooperate with any of the United States' cruizers that he might detach to watch the "*General Pierce*," I have now the honour to inform your Excellency that the Commodore will readily avail himself of the services of the "*Rifleman*," should the suspicious circumstances respecting the real objects of the "*General Pierce*" not be removed prior to that vessel leaving the port of Rio de Janeiro.

Commodore Salter appears to be sincerely desirous to frustrate the designs of Derizanz and his associates, and to prevent the United States' flag being employed to cover the objects they have in view, and he informs me that he will continue to prosecute the steps which he has already taken for that purpose.

The readiness with which Commodore Salter enter into a discussion of this question, and the frankness with which he has accepted our offered cooperation, will, I am sure, be as gratifying to your Excellency as it is to me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. W. HENDERSON.

No. 118.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the translation of a Law for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which received the Imperial sanction on the 5th instant, and was published in the official journal of this day.

It will be in your Lordship's recollection that this law, which has been the subject of previous reports from Her Majesty's Legation, was passed last year in the Senate towards the close of the session.

It has now, since the opening of the Chambers this year, been agreed to by the Chamber of Deputies, with an amendment accepted by the Government, and subsequently adopted by the Senate.

This amendment consists in the substitution of the word "tried" for "punished" in the second paragraph of Article 2, which as it now stands exempts Brazilian subjects from the action of this law for slave-trading transactions for which they may have been already tried in a foreign country, without requiring, as originally, that they shall actually have been punished.

The reasons urged for the amendment were, that it would be unjust to subject men to a second trial for the same offence; that if acquitted in a foreign country, their innocence ought to be taken for granted; and that, on the other hand, if pardoned for their offence, it would be an interference with the power of clemency exercised towards them by the sovereign authority of a foreign country to submit them to a further trial.

The law itself did not meet with serious opposition in the Chamber of Deputies, although several members of the Opposition, whilst proclaiming their ardent desire to see the Slave Trade put an end to, opposed the measure as one which might lead to much abuse of power, which unwarrantably deprived individuals of the right and advantage of trial by jury, and principally as a measure of great severity, which was not required by the exigencies of the case, now that the Slave Trade was as its last gasp.

Senhor Nabuco de Araujo, the Brazilian Minister of Justice, answered all these objections very ably in the speech of which I have the honour to transmit a translation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 118.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Decree of the 5th June, 1854, declaring from what time the competency of the Auditors of Marine shall take place to prosecute and try offenders referred to in the 3rd Article of the Law, No. 581, of the 4th September, 1850, and the cases in which penalties for attempts at importation of slaves shall be imposed by the said Auditors.

I AM pleased to sanction and order to be executed the following resolution of the General Legislative Assembly :

Art. 1. The competency of the Auditors of Marine to prosecute and try the offenders mentioned in the 3rd Article of the Law, No. 581, of the 4th September, 1850, shall take place after the publication of the present resolution, even in cases when the pursuit of the delinquents and of the slaves landed shall not be effected at the time of disembarkation, but shall be made subsequently, as soon as the public authority shall have intelligence of the landing, at whatever distance they may be from the coast.

Art. 2. Any Brazilian citizen, wherever he may reside, and any foreigner residing in Brazil, being the owner, captain or master, pilot or mate, or having an interest in the transactions, of any vessel engaged in the Slave Trade, shall be punished with the penalties imposed for attempts at the importation of slaves, and shall be prosecuted and tried by the said Auditors, the provision of the Law of the 4th September, 1850, continuing in force as regards importers of slaves into Brazil.

This provision does not comprise Brazilian citizens resident in foreign countries, who shall have been prosecuted and tried there for the same offence.

Art. 3. All provisions to the contrary are hereby cancelled.

Jose Thomas Nabuco de Araujo, of my Council, Minister and Secretary of State for the Affairs of Justice, shall thus cause it to be executed.
Palace of Rio de Janeiro, 5th June, 1854, 33rd year of the Independence and of the Empire.

(Countersigned) (Sign Manual of His Majesty the Emperor.)
JOSE THOMAS NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 113.

Extract from the Speech of the Minister of Justice, in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, May 17, 1854.

(Translation.)

“MR. PRESIDENT,—It appears to me to be unnecessary that I should say what great importance the Government attach to the Project of Law now under discussion, it having been one of those recommended in the Speech from the Throne.

“The Imperial Government, and all of us, are bound by our own interests, and in the face of the whole civilized world, to repress that infamous Trade which jeopardizes our future, and renders colonization an impossibility; the Imperial Government could not, therefore, but adopt the provisions of this Project: they would even be wanting to a sacred duty if they were not strenuously to strive for their adoption. Is this Project indispensable? This is the first question raised by one of the two noble members who opposed it. He considers the Law of the 4th of September to be sufficient; but I will say that late occurrences have proved that Law to be now-a-days impotent, as regards repression. Let us see what were the circumstances, what was the state of things when the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, was promulgated.

“The circumstances of the present day are not the same as those which that Law provided against. In 1850, as you all know, the great slave-market was upon the coasts; it was there that there were large deposit warehouses whither every one went to make purchases. The Law of the 4th September, 1850, effected a change in those circumstances; the dealers changed their plans, and now-a-days the Africans, as soon as they are landed, are conveyed by impervious and cross unknown roads into the interior of the country. What can the Government do to defeat these new circumstances under the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, the action of which is restricted to the coasts? If we sincerely wish for repression, if we do not wish to sophisticate it, we ought, Sirs, to follow the slave-dealers in their new plans; it is proper that the Government should not remain impotent, that they should be enabled to act against them, and not be made responsible without possessing the necessary means for pursuing them. (Applause.)

“Besides this, an additional reason exists, which is, that the English Government, in consequence of the Oriental Question, and because they appear to confide in the sincere efforts of the Brazilian Government, have diminished the number of their cruisers on the coast of Africa; and it is therefore a sacred duty imposed upon us to respond to that confidence (applause) in redoubling the measures of repression on shore, because they are more efficacious; as by this means the Slave Trade, to use the expressions of the noble Deputy for San Paulo, is in a dying state.

“I have already shown that the present state of things is not the same as that of 1850. The fact at Bracuhy is an example of what I told you; you know how the Africans landed there were immediately conveyed into the interior.

“The noble Deputies spoke of the dangers which the provisions of this Law may produce; there is no measure, however advantageous and necessary it may be, without its inconveniences. It is proper to confide in the execution of it, because, Sirs, the Government are guaranteed from those dangers—the Government who form part of the nation, and who, in case of a subversion, will be the responsible victims. (Applause.) A Government, unless they be ignorant of their mission, cannot for the sake of one interest

jeopardize the other interests of society; it is in the combining of the whole of them that the great problem of public administration consists. It is not to make an improper use of them that the Government wishes for these provisions, because if that were their aim, they have sufficient and powerful means already at their disposal. (Much applause.)

“I think that the jurisdiction which the Project wishes to establish offers more guarantees than those which actually exist. Who are the persons now charged with the prosecution and the trial of the crimes of which the 1st Article of the Project treats? The Delegates and Sub-delegates, do these deserve more confidence than the Auditors? Who are these Auditors, who appear to be so very terrible? They are the judges of right, the Chiefs of the Police; they are the persons who exercise jurisdiction in the country, and who offer greater guarantees than Delegates or Sub-delegates.

“I told you, Sirs, that the Government had the sincere desire to repress the Slave Trade, and that they were not desirous of sophisticating that repression. Would it not be a sophistication of repression to entrust juries with the adjudication of this crime? Without wishing to disparage the tribunal of the jury, I shall tell you that it is not the most proper for the punishment of these crimes. The jury may be qualified to punish crimes which common sense recognise, which are repugnant to the heart, which are, so to speak, execrated by natural law, and are considered infamous: it is not, however, the most proper for punishing those which are created by the necessities and interests of society. The slave-traders, Sirs, will not fail to seek those places for landing their slaves which, in their opinion, are the most favourable for their purpose. They will only convey Africans into the interior through places in which they may meet with protection. Can juries of those places, their accomplices, interested persons and connivers at the crime, be entrusted with the trial of them? Can we tell those nations which are cooperating with us towards this aim at civilization and humanity that the jury is satisfactory? This would be an epigram: this would not be to wish for repression; it would be a sophistication of it.

“I, Sirs, flatter myself with the language of the noble Deputy for San Paulo who first spoke, when he told us that all political opinions of the country were unanimous respecting the Slave Trade. In truth, there are certain principles which should be shared by all parties, such as those which relate to national honour, faith in Treaties, and international questions; and thus we see statesmen in civilized countries almost always coinciding in diplomatic questions. This mode of procedure, this unity of force, strengthens the Governments, and foreigners have no interest in speculating upon the vicissitudes of the policy of nations. It here becomes my province to vindicate the honour of the opinion which predominates, and to which the noble Deputy attributes the exclusive protection of the Slave Trade. There was a time, Sirs, in which all opinions throughout the country appeared to tolerate the Slave Trade, as there has also arrived one in which all are pronounced against it: this is the best grounded, the most impartial and honest judgment, that can without injustice be formed of the past and present periods. (Much applause.)

“The noble Deputy who last spoke called upon the Government for an explanation respecting the comprehensiveness of the 1st Article of the Law under discussion. According to the noble Deputy, there is danger that the Law will comprehend those crimes previously committed; but, Sirs, the expressions of the Law are very precise, and it appears to me that no doubt can remain in that respect, because the Project says: ‘After the publication of the present resolution.’ There is another clause in the Law which provides against all the noble Deputy’s apprehensions, ‘on the occasion of the disembarkation;’ and it is only upon news being received of a disembarkation that the law will be enforced. As to the purchasers, there is no new provision respecting them in the Project. The provisions on that score of the 9th Article of the Law of the 4th of September, 1850, in which the 3rd Article of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, is referred to, will still subsist.

“Sirs, I heard a noble Deputy say, that the provision of the 2nd Article of the Project was contrary to the established rules of right; that it was a provision opposed to exceptional common right even to determine that only those crimes could be punished that are committed within the territory. If there is any subject respecting which private national right, which is founded upon the laws of each nation, can be doubtful and varied, it is this which appears to the noble Deputy to be clear. This matter is ruled by two main principles,—either that of the personality of the laws, a principle which predominated during the middle ages, and was followed in Germany, which still exists in Prussia and Austria, according to which the subject of a nation, wherever he may be, on committing a crime, is subject to the laws of his own country, because he is not allowed to be ignorant of them. I do not adopt that principle, which appears to me repugnant. The other principle is that of territorial sovereignty, and consists in there being only a right to punish crimes committed in the country. This principle is absolute as in England and the United States, or with the exception of those crimes which are committed against the State, or against subjects of the same nation; as is the case in France, Belgium, and the Two Sicilies, where, by exception from that second principle, the subjects of those nations are punished who in other countries commit crimes against their security, of coining false money, &c., or against their other subjects. It is in conformity with these principles that the provisions of the 2nd Article are to be considered.

“It was in our power to follow the right of this or that nation in either of the two established principles; for although we acknowledge the right of sovereignty, we may take an exception therefrom respecting any description of crimes.

“As to the amendment, it appearing to me that it is only meant as regards the wording, the Senate might be consulted on this point. I do not know what precedents there are, but it appears that the intention of the Senate was solely that of respecting the judgment of other nations.”

No. 119.

Mr Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 12, 1854.

IN the debates now going on in the Brazilian Senate on the project of address in answer to the Imperial speech from the Throne, the conduct of Her Majesty's Government in maintaining the British Act of Parliament of August 1845, commonly called Lord Aberdeen's Bill, and the right of search of Brazilian merchant-vessels on the high seas, now that the Slave Trade is professed to be extinguished in Brazil, has been severely commented upon; the Act itself has been designated as an infringement of the sovereignty of Brazil, and the Brazilian Government have been attacked by members of the Opposition for not having succeeded in obtaining its revocation; a failure which was erroneously attributed by one of those members to the presence of Viscount Paraná in the Cabinet.

As I was on the point, yesterday, of leaving the room of the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, his Excellency detained me, and referred to those attacks, saying that it would be necessary for him to take some steps in the matter.

I observed, that I thought the best course for his Excellency to take was to declare openly that there was no chance of inducing Her Majesty's Government to suspend the operation of the Act, until Brazil should have concluded with Great Britain an adequate Slave Trade Treaty, and that I had remarked that Viscount Paraná had said something of the kind, which was, I thought the most judicious mode of representing the question; and I added, that I thought his Excellency's predecessor, Senhor Paulino, had left the present Brazilian Administration an inconvenient

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legacy by holding out, in his last year's report to the Chambers, the favourable prospect of the repeal of the Act.

In my turn, I asked his Excellency whether he had meant to convey to me, by what he had said, that he intended to make fresh proposals to Her Majesty's Government.

Senhor de Abreo replied that there was a qualification in Senhor Paulino's declaration in reference to a Treaty, which had been omitted by the members who had quoted it; that he did not intend to make any fresh proposals for a Treaty; that the Chevalier de Macedo was already provided with the necessary instructions. His Excellency then reverted to the successful efforts which the Imperial Government had made to suppress the Slave Trade, and to the circumstance of its being now extinguished in Brazil, as authorising them to expect that Her Majesty's Government would consent to abrogate the Act.

I rejoined that the Imperial Government had the remedy in their own hands—if they chose to sign the Project of Treaty proposed by your Lordship in June of last year, the operation of the Act would be suspended as long as the Treaty should last. How did the question now stand? We had declined the proposals of the Brazilian Government for a new Treaty and they had rejected ours, although not materially differing from the stipulations of our Treaty with Portugal; and it had, as I had understood from your Lordship, been then agreed between the Brazilian Envoy and yourself that things should remain *in statu quo*. With regard to the right of search, I reminded his Excellency that we exercised it as well in virtue of the Perpetual Article of the Treaty of 1826, and that your Lordship had yourself explained in a despatch dated the 4th of January last, a copy of which I had had the honour of placing in his hands, that the Brazilian Government were mistaken in supposing that Her Majesty's Government intended to abandon the exercise of that right. I said that I could not admit that the Slave Trade was completely extinguished in Brazil; the information which his Excellency had transmitted to me proved that it was not so; and besides, what guarantee had we that another Administration would have the suppression of the Slave Trade as much at heart as that of which he was a member, and would take as vigorous measures with that view?

Senhor de Abreo, in conclusion, observed that the feeling in general in Brazil was now opposed to the Slave Trade, which was now only sought to be carried on by a few individuals; and that under these circumstances no future Administration would act otherwise than the present Government were doing. He added, that he had received despatches from M. de Macedo, stating that he hoped to be able to come to an understanding with your Lordship on the topics we had conversed upon; and I inferred from what his Excellency said, that it is his intention to write to that Minister to press the wishes of the Imperial Government on your Lordship.

Having on previous occasions dwelt, in my conversations with the Brazilian Ministers, on the advantages of the cooperation of Her Majesty's cruisers, and on the encouragement which the cessation by them of the exercise of the right of search on the high seas, and the revocation of the Act of 1845, would prove to the slave-traders, I did not seek, on the present occasion, to prolong my conversation on these subjects with his Excellency, which was carried on throughout in the most friendly terms.

I cannot conclude this despatch without mentioning to your Lordship that I have not altogether escaped, during the discussions in the Senate, the attacks which were lavished upon Mr. Hudson.

Two of the members have found great fault with my notes to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of the emancipation of the so-called free Africans, saying that they constituted an interference with the internal affairs of the country; that their tone was too haughty, whilst that of Senhor de Abreo's communications to me was too submissive: moreover, that I advocated measures which would throw the country into disorder.

One noble Senator, who makes a handle of every question in order to attack the present Imperial Government, as he did the previous Adminis-

tration, declared that he was nearly shedding tears on reading my notes. I have, however, consoled myself with the reflection that this melancholy consummation did not actually take place.

The fact is, that the question of the emancipation of the free Africans is one which affects too many private interests to be a palatable one. There is such a numerous class of persons in this country who have so long enjoyed the services of these unfortunate individuals, that they are unwilling to see the advantages they derive from those services withdrawn or curtailed; and whilst they have been obliged to make up their minds to the cessation of the importation of Africans, they seem to be only more intent upon retaining in servitude those who, though having a right to full liberty, are still kept in bondage.

I feel that I ought to apologise to your Lordship for this allusion to myself; but I have been induced to make it, as it shows what I believe to be a pretty widely spread feeling on the question of the free Africans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 120.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 13, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 28th of April and the 11th of May last,* concerning an expected landing of Africans on the coast of the Brazilian Province of Rio Grande do Sul, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Commander Parish, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Sharpshooter," who was dispatched by Admiral Henderson to cruize in those quarters, has returned here, and reports to me that he has not seen any suspicious vessel, nor heard any confirmatory information on the subject.

The Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, acquaints me that he has received contradictory intelligence on the subject; however, his last despatches from the Presidents of the Provinces of Rio Grande and St. Catherine, state the disbelief of those functionaries of the accuracy of the information which had reached him, and which he had communicated to me, of the reported project of a disembarkation of slaves at Tramandahy; the President of the former Province had, nevertheless, sent a military detachment to the spot in question.

I cannot help remarking to your Lordship, that it is satisfactory to observe that, whereas a year ago, the Brazilian Government rather deprecated the cooperation of Her Majesty's cruisers, it was upon Senhor de Abreo's inquiry, whether Admiral Henderson could not spare a steamer, that the "Sharpshooter" was sent down to the coast of Rio Grande.

I have &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 121.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of June, reporting the steps which you had taken respecting the notorious slave-trader Jacintho Derizanz, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 93 and 101.

No. 122.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th of June, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction the publication of the Imperial Decree of the 5th of June, sanctioning a law for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which was passed in the Brazilian Senate during its last session.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 123.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 25, 1854.

I ENTIRELY approve the language which you held to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs in a conversation with him respecting certain observations which were made in the Brazilian Senate on the subject of the continuance of the Act of Parliament of August 1845, as reported in your despatch of the 12th of June, and I have to desire that you will adhere to the same language upon all similar occasions, as it faithfully represents the views of Her Majesty's Government.

I have spoken in the same sense to M. de Macedo, and I see no prospect of his agreeing to such a Treaty as Her Majesty's Government would consider safe or justifying the suspension of the Act of 1845.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 124.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 27, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant,* inclosing copies of a letter which I had received from the Brazilian Minister at this Court, and of my reply thereto, on the subject of the past conduct of the Brazilian Government with regard to the Slave Trade, I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a further letter† on the same subject, dated the 7th instant, which I have received from the Chevalier de Macedo. I have to add, that Her Majesty's Government have not thought it necessary to return an answer to M. de Macedo's last letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 13.

† No. 114.

No. 125.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 2, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th of May last,* transmitting to your Lordship the copy of a note which I had addressed on the previous day to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the subject of an alleged attempt to reduce the child of a free negress to slavery, I have the honour of inclosing a translation of a note dated the 27th ultimo, which I have received from his Excellency in reply, stating the various measures taken by the Minister of Justice on the subject, and explaining the circumstances under which the child in question had been baptized as a slave, and had remained in this country after the departure of her mother.

Your Lordship will perceive that the baptism, under that form, is explained as having been a mistake, and that the child is stated to have remained behind by her own wish and with the consent of her mother. However this may have been, the liberty of the child is now notorious, and the inquiries which have been instituted cannot but be productive of good.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 125.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 27, 1854.

I HAVE already acknowledged the receipt of the note which on the 10th of May last was addressed to me by Mr. H. F. Howard, &c.

Mr. Howard, in this note, informs me that a merchant of this city, residing in the Rua Direita, named Joaquim Luiz Soares, had a free female African in his house, who was delivered of a daughter whilst in his service, and that the child when baptized was entered as a slave on the parish register. Mr. Howard adds, that that entry having been afterwards amended in consequence of a complaint preferred to the police by the mother, the latter was sent on board a steamer to the northern ports, deprived of her child, and that the husband of the said African woman, who had taken an active part against Soares, had been imprisoned, although subsequently released; and further, that criminal attempts have been made by some persons of more elevated positions to reduce free negroes to slavery.

Having transmitted Mr. Howard's note to the Minister of Justice, I have just received from his Excellency the following information relative to its contents, which is the result of a most severe and scrupulous investigation.

The merchant Joaquim Luiz Soares had, in effect, a free African woman, named Marcellina, in his house, whose services had been allotted to him for fourteen years, at the expiration of which time she claimed her emancipation, which having been granted to her, she was furnished by the competent judge with a passage on board the steamer "Josephina" to Bahia, from whence she was to be re-exported to the coast of Africa, as directed by the orders of the Ministry of Justice of the 8th of March and 3rd of April of the present year.

Previous to the effecting of the re-exportation of that female African, together with the black man, José Manoel, to whom she had been a short time before married, the Chief of Police was instructed by the said Ministry of Justice to procure information relative to the reported fact that the Creole, Luiza Leocadia, bred and educated in the house of the merchant

* No. 103.

Joaquim Luiz Soares, had been compelled by that black man, residing at San Christovão, to go to the Gold Coast.

Leocadia, on being interrogated, said that it was her free and spontaneous wish to accompany her mother to the Gold Coast, and the black man, José, said that the reason why Joaquim Luiz Soares opposed the departure of Leocadia was because he wanted to enslave her, as for that purpose he had caused her to be baptized as a slave, as was seen in the record of her baptism in the parish of the Candellaria in this city.

The Chief of Police having ordered minutes of that declaration to be committed to writing, he called for a certificate of the registry of the baptism of the black girl Leocadia, and thereby it appears that she was in fact baptized as the slave of Soares, and registered as such in the book of the registry of slaves; but that by order of the Count Bishop, Chief Chaplain, of the 4th May last, that registration was transferred to the book of free persons at the request of the said merchant Soares, against whom the Chief of the Police did not institute criminal proceedings in consequence of Leocadia's parents having, whilst he was examining into this question, stated that a complaint had already been lodged against Soares in the first municipal court of this capital.

The liberty of the said Creole girl having thus been proved, and that the first registration of her baptism, by which she was described as a slave, could not bind her to slavery, she was given up to her parents to follow her destiny.

After the delivery of the Creole Leocadia to her mother, the Chief of the Police learnt that she was again in the house of the said Soares, the African Marcellina having gone to Bahia with her husband.

From the interrogatories, separately proceeded to, of Soares and the Creole Leocadia, and from the statements made by both of them, it was ascertained that she had returned to the house of Soares very spontaneously by means of certain requests, and the influence of other persons, begging to be readmitted there, and even with the consent of her mother Marcellina, and of the latter's husband.

From the allegations of Soares it is seen that the Creole Leocadia had been baptized as a slave by order of an old woman, his housekeeper, and that when he became acquainted with that fact he sent to have that registration altered, and that so far from considering her to be his slave, he always treated her as a free person, and even had her taught to read and write, and caused her to wear shoes, as was witnessed by and known to respectable persons who frequented his house.

From all that has above been shown, and from the statements of the coadjutor of the parish of Candellaria, where the said Creole was baptized, and from the reply of the Vicar, and still further from the general good opinion held of the merchant Soares, I think, with the Chief of the Police, that it should be concluded that only through a mistake the fact could have occurred of the Creole Leocadia having been baptized as a slave, which appears further to be confirmed by the fact of the complaint against him not having been followed up in the first municipal court.

With regard to the imprisonment of the black, José Manoel, by the Delegate of the Police, it appears from the official report of the latter that the said black was summoned to appear at the Delegate's office, in order to give up a sum of money entrusted to him by a black woman named Liberata, and as he did not choose to appear, and disobeyed the orders of that authority, he was sent to prison, and was released after due investigation of the case.

I have finally to tell Mr. Howard that if some attempts have been made to reduce free persons to slavery, the authorities of the country have not neglected the performance of their duty whenever such facts have come to their knowledge.

I think that the preceding explanations will enable Mr. Howard to entertain a more correct idea than that which he possessed relative to the facts alleged in his note of the 10th of May last.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 126.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 5, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt on the 28th ultimo of your Lordship's despatch of the 19th of April last, and to inform your Lordship that, in compliance with the instructions which it contains, I have notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned that the Municipal Judge of Marianna has pronounced a judgment directing that the three slaves who belonged to the late John Craven are to be set at liberty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 127.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 11, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of July, respecting the proceedings which had been taken in the case of the Creole girl Leocadia, and which have led to the recognition of her freedom by the Brazilian authorities; and I have to inform you that I approve the representation which you made to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 128.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 10, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May last,* I have conveyed in a note of yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information communicated in his Excellency's note to me of the 11th of April, relative to the proceedings of the Portuguese vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto on a slave trading voyage.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 129.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 12, 1854.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May last,† I have the honour to make the following statement.

No coolies have been imported into Brazil, as supposed by Mr. Sturge,

* No. 90.

† No. 88.

of Birmingham. A shipload of them touched here a couple of years ago, on her way back to India from the West Indies, but on being asked whether they were disposed to remain in this country, they replied in the negative.

A certain number of Chinese were introduced in the time of Don John VI of Portugal, nearly thirty years ago, for the cultivation of the tea-plant; but the speculation failed, and they dispersed. It does not appear that they suffered ill-treatment, and those who have remained in the country are for the most part well off, and established as shopkeepers. A few Chinese occasionally come here singly on board merchant-vessels, but are not dealt with in the manner described by Mr. Sturge.

With regard to the class of liberated Africans imported into this country since the year 1831, they are undoubtedly treated in most respects as slaves, and it may be assumed that a considerable number of them have been sold, or otherwise reduced to permanent slavery, but your Lordship will have learnt from my correspondence that an Imperial Decree was issued in December last, providing that those who have served private individuals during fourteen years shall be emancipated. With regard to those who are employed in the public establishments and offices, the Brazilian Government do not consider themselves obliged to restore them to full liberty, though they consider they are entitled to receive wages after the period of fourteen years.

With regard to the Germans who come to this country, they arrive as colonists: and with regard to the islanders from the Azores and Cape Verds, after working out in about ten months their passage money, they hire themselves out as servants, and are quite free.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 130.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a *précis* of that part of the proceedings of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies yesterday, which related to the inquiries addressed by the Deputy Senhor Ferraz to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and to his Excellency's reply on the subject of the negotiations with Her Majesty's Government for a Slave Trade Convention, and for the repeal of the British Act of Parliament of 1845, commonly called "Lord Aberdeen's Act," and of the means employed by the Imperial Government in order to obtain from Great Britain the compensation alleged to be due to Brazilian subjects on account of prizes taken.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 130.

Précis of Proceedings in the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies, on the 13th of July, 1854, relative to the Slave Negotiations with England.

(Translation.)

THE Deputy Senhor Angelo Ferraz having inquired of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, first, what was the nature of the Convention or arrangement which his Excellency had intimated, in a former debate, was in course of negotiation respecting the repeal of Lord Aberdeen's Bill of the year 1845; and secondly, what means the Government had

employed in order to obtain, from England, compensation due to Brazilian subjects for prizes taken, Senhor Limpo de Abreo returned the following answers :

“The Imperial Government have given to that negotiation that consideration and direction which were most suitable. My predecessor has already, in his report, brought to the knowledge of the Chambers the agreements which were in course of negotiation for the repeal of the Bill of 1845. Neither in this Chamber, nor in the Senate, has any observation been made thereon.”

His Excellency then read the report, which justified his assertion, and the necessity and legitimacy of those agreements. They proceed from the international stipulations of Great Britain with Portugal and Brazil for the cessation of the Slave Trade.

The Minister referred to the stipulations of the 22nd of January, 1815, of the 29th of August, 1817, and of the 23rd of November, 1826. He reminded the Chamber that, in virtue of those Conventions, and of a Separate Article of the 11th September, 1817, the Crowns of Great Britain and of Portugal, and virtually that of Brazil, agreed that posterior steps should be taken for the regular abolition of the Slave Trade; and that, for the adoption of those measures in common, diplomatic agreements became necessary.

“There is a promise,” his Excellency said, “an obligation, arising from the Treaty of 1817, and from the Separate Article, by virtue of which measures must be taken in substitution of those which were therein established.”

After the termination of the Treaty, the British Government have made several proposals to the Government of Brazil, who have exchanged their ideas with them, but without coming to an agreement. But that it becomes necessary to take measures in common, is not a matter of doubt with his Excellency.

When England promulgated the Bill of 1845, he, the orator, being then Minister for Foreign Affairs, had occasion to protest against that attack upon the national sovereignty of Brazil; but he did not, in that protest, exclude the possibility of Conventions for obtaining the complete abolition of the Slave Trade. The reason was then the same as that which he had just given, because it has always been his opinion that Brazil was by Treaty bound to enter into an agreement for the final adjustment of this question.

His Excellency considers the opposition of Senhor Ferraz to arise from the apprehension of such agreements being calculated to injure Brazilian commerce. If the Government of Brazil had not been so zealous in guarding the interests of commerce, those agreements would ere this have been concluded. The same spirit will preside over such stipulations as may be entered into. A negotiation on this subject cannot be objected to *in limine*, because all efforts, compatible with the honour and commercial interests of Brazil, should be made to erase that Bill from the legislation of England. Notwithstanding its being for a length of time a dead letter, it is nevertheless an offensive act against the Brazilian rights of sovereignty. (Cheers.) He does not say that they should sacrifice the interests of commerce; but those concessions can be made which may be compatible with its interests.

With reference to the other inquiries which had just been made, his Excellency said that he had continued to instruct the Brazilian Minister in London to prosecute the claims for compensation due to Brazilian subjects for prizes. Hitherto that question has not been solved. It is his Excellency's opinion that when the difficulties are removed respecting the Slave Trade question, between the British and Brazilian Cabinets, those claims will be attended to. The present Ministry can do no more than what their predecessors in office did, but they have not omitted recommending this subject to their Diplomatic Agent.

Senhor Ferraz, in reply to the Minister, began with the question of the Aberdeen Bill.

After divers remarks upon the stipulations of 1815, 1817, and 1826,
CLASS B.

with regard to the Slave Trade, he protested against the manner in which England arrogated to herself the right of framing a Bill to fill up a deficiency in the legislation of Brazil, because, she said, the Slave Trade was continuing upon a large scale, and with the protection of the Brazilian authorities. That the Slave Trade had ceased, not, as Lord John Russell had foreseen, owing to the roar of English cannon, nor to the dismantling of our forts, but to the patriotic sentiments of the whole country (hear), and to the active cooperation of the political powers of the State. Now that England herself appears to be satisfied, is certainly not a proper time for negotiating for the repeal of that Bill, which debases Brazil, and ought to have been voluntarily repealed. Neither can he agree to the propriety of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who was the originator and signer of that famous Protest against that Bill, now nullifying his own work, and satisfying the *velléité* of the British Government, in signing a Convention for that purpose. It would be better that that Bill should remain in the collection of the laws of Great Britain, and die forgotten among the dust of her archives. Before entering into any negotiation, the repeal of a Bill which is an outrage against the dignity and honour of Brazil should be demanded.

With regard to the prizes, the noble Minister said that he had taken the necessary measures, but that he did not think it prudent to insist upon those claims, because it might be the means of producing the reappearance of the Slave Trade. The orator is of opinion that the acknowledgment of the justice of a case never can, in any instance, encourage crime.

No. 131.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, respecting the emancipated slaves in Brazil who have acquired their own freedom, and are desirous of returning thence to the coast of Africa.

I have to call your attention to Mr. Campbell's remarks as to the difficulty which these poor people experience in procuring passages to Africa, and to his suggestion that Her Majesty's Consuls at the principal ports in Brazil might possibly be able to assist these negroes by their interposition; and I have to desire that you will take any steps for this object that may appear to you to be practicable.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 132.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

NOT having received on the 17th ultimo any written answer from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to my note of the 30th of March last on the subject of the African John, whom I had taken under my protection and sent back to the Cape of Good Hope, as reported in my despatch of the 13th of April,† I addressed to his Excellency on that day the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, reminding him of the fact of the non-reception by me of such answer, and communicating the approval contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of May,‡ of the course which I had taken in behalf of that African.

I subsequently received from Senhor Limpo de Abreo a note, dated

* No. 2.

† No. 87.

‡ No. 91.

the 19th of July, transmitting to me, in reply, a certificate of freedom, delivered on the 5th of May last by the Judge of the Orphans of this capital in favour of the said John, as well as a copy of the deposition, signed before the police on the 5th of the preceding April by his pretended owner, Senhor da Costa, stating the circumstances under which he professes to have bought him, but desisting from all further claim to him. Of these papers I likewise beg to inclose translations.

As there appeared to me strong grounds for assuming, even from Senhor da Costa's own story, and notwithstanding his denials, that he had reduced John to slavery knowing him to be a free man, and as the Brazilian authorities seemed to have confined themselves to taking down his deposition, without adopting any further measures to elucidate the matter and to promote the ends of justice, I addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, on the 25th ultimo, the note of which the accompanying is a copy, pointing out these circumstances, and urging the institution of further proceedings, with a view to ascertaining how far Senhor da Costa may not have rendered himself amenable to the laws; and I received from his Excellency the preliminary answer of the 27th of the same month, annexed hereto in translation, stating his having referred the subject of that note to the Minister of Justice.

I have been induced not to allow this case to rest in the manner in which Senhor Limpo de Abreo had disposed of it, from the feeling of the expediency of keeping up the Brazilian authorities to their duty, and of not permitting those individuals who have been guilty of the crime of reducing free men to slavery to remain altogether unmolested, even if I should not be able to effect their punishment.

When I shall receive the answer I am expecting from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to the letter which I addressed to him on the 13th of April by Her Majesty's ship "Juno," on the subject of John, I shall be enabled to form a fuller judgment of the case.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure I in No. 132.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

ON the 20th of March last I had the honour of addressing a note to your Excellency, detailing the circumstances under which I had taken an African named John, or Joaquim, emancipated at the Cape of Good Hope, under my protection, and urging the Imperial Government to take the necessary steps for punishing the individual, Senhor Luiz da Costa, of this capital, who had illegally reduced him to slavery.

At an interview which I had, some weeks subsequently, with you, your Excellency was so good as to inform me that Senhor da Costa abandoned all claim to John, and that it appeared he had acted in good faith, but your Excellency was then unable to give me any details on the subject. On my part, I stated to your Excellency that it had likewise come to my knowledge that Senhor da Costa had renounced his claim to John, and that having, since the date of my note of the 20th of March last, learnt further facts corroborative of his right to full liberty, I had taken an opportunity of sending him back to the Cape of Good Hope in Her Majesty's ship "Juno." I likewise made some other remarks relative to the advisableness of prosecuting the matter further, and to the importance, with a view to the suppression of Slave Trade attempted to be carried on in the interior of the Empire, of punishing those individuals who should be convicted of illegally reducing free men to slavery.

I have now the honour of informing your Excellency that I have lately received a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to whom I had reported the measures I had adopted, acquainting me that his Lordship entirely approves of the course which I took in respect to the said African John,

and, as I have not yet had the pleasure of receiving any definite or written reply from your Excellency, I should feel obliged by your communicating to me the result of the measures which you informed me had been taken by the Imperial Government in order to elucidate the matter.

I may add, that it appears to me quite impossible, considering that John spoke English perfectly, and that he made no secret of his having come from the Cape of Good Hope, that Senhor da Costa should not have verified the fact, and have been fully aware that he was, by the laws of Brazil, a free man.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 132.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 19, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the notes which, under the dates of the 20th of March and 17th instant, were addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., relative to the black named John, *alias* Joaquim, who sought the protection of the British Legation, saying that he was a free man, by reason of having been brought from the Cape of Good Hope, where his freedom had been declared, and where he had resided for some time.

In answer, I have the honour to acquaint Mr. Howard, that having applied to the Minister of Justice for the necessary information on this subject, his Excellency has transmitted to me the inclosed certificate of freedom granted by the Judge of the Orphans in consequence of the declaration made before the Chief of the Police, whereof a copy is also inclosed, signed by Antonio Luiz da Costa, who desisted from the right which he supposed that he had over the said black, from having bought him in 1836 from Antonio Augusto de Oliveira Botelho, since he discovered that the negro Joaquim had been declared a free man at the Cape of Good Hope.

Judging that I reply in a satisfactory manner to the subject of the above-mentioned notes, I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 132.

Certificate of Freedom.

(Translation.)

I, THE Doctor José Joaquim de Sequeira, Chamberlain of His Majesty the Emperor, Judge of the Orphans in this city of Rio de Janeiro;

Do make known to all the authorities, and to all other persons to whom the knowledge of these presents shall come, that by virtue of the instruction of the Minister of Justice of the 30th of last April, and of the the sentence of this Court of the 9th instant, the African named Joaquim, of the Benguella nation, is hereby considered free, and in the full enjoyment of his freedom by the act of desistance of Antonio Luiz da Costa from all the right, action, and possession which he had over the said African, having recognized that he had been freed at the Cape of Good Hope, as is declared in the respective record of desistance annexed to the process, and in order that his freedom may become evident, I have caused the present to be granted to him, which will serve him as a title of his right to freedom.

Rio de Janeiro, May 9, 1854.

And I, João Maria da Luz, Clerk, have written this.

(Signed) DR. JOSE JOAQUIM DE SEQUEIRA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 132.

Deposition.

(Translation.)

ON the 5th day of April of the year 1854, and by virtue of an order of Don José Mattoso de Andrade Camara, Chief of Police *ad interim*, came and appeared before him the apothecary, Antonio Luiz da Costa, residing in the Rua Nova de San Francisco da Prainha since 1845, who being asked by the said Chief of Police to tell what he knew regarding a negro named Joaquim, of the Benguella nation, who he said is his slave, the said Costa answered that question by making the following declaration:

That having purchased this slave in the year 1836 or 1837 from his gossip ("compadre"), named Antonio Augusto de Oliveira Botelho, he fled from him soon after the purchase, and that about two years ago he appeared to him, having been brought by a city policeman, to whom he, the deponent, gave a gratification of sixty milreis, the said negro having at that time acknowledged the deponent as his legitimate master, and then related to him that when he fled he went on board a vessel to England, and returned on board another to this port, where he had been arrested by city policemen whilst asleep in the hull of a vessel aground on the beach of the Sande, a place which he had selected to shelter himself at night since his arrival in this port. That since his flight he served him for nearly two years, always acknowledging him, the deponent, as his legitimate master, but having subsequently taken to drinking, he, the deponent, resolved to sell him on that account, and for that purpose sent him to Arrosal duly cleared; but he having continued to inebriate himself there, and denying the qualities he possessed to those persons who presented themselves as purchasers, because he did not choose to be sold to anyone residing out of this city, the sale could not be effected, and he consequently was sent back to him, the deponent, with whom he remained about fifteen days, and then disappeared, when it became known to the deponent that his said slave called himself a free man, in consequence of having been in England since his first flight, and having sailed in English vessels; but that he, the deponent, in full good faith, considered him to be his slave, and was entirely ignorant of his having, whilst in England, obtained during his flight a right to consider himself free; that if it was true that he had acquired a claim to liberty, he, the deponent, would not hesitate in desisting from all right and dominion over the said slave, and that the authority might at once take charge of him, wherever he might be, and give him such destination as should be considered most proper, upon the authorities furnishing the deponent with a document by which he could procure the annulment, at the Receiver's Office of the Municipality, of the registration of the said negro as his slave, as appears from the certificate which he presents; that he had no document to exhibit of the purchase, the deponent having bought the negro from one of his gossips, as he had before stated, who, being his friend, he did not at the time of the purchase require from him the competent document, it being then understood that his "compadre" would furnish this title-deed when he should be more at leisure, or when he, the deponent, should want it, but that there not having been any necessity for it the matter was forgotten; that his said gossip is at present in New York, and that he has written to him for the said title-deed, as the occasion has arrived for its being required, and that he, the deponent, binds himself to present it as soon as it is received, or within a reasonable period. And further the deponent said nothing, wherefore the said Chief of Police has signed this declaration with the deponent.

I, Fermino José da Silva Veiga, amanuensis of the police office of this city, have written it.

(Signed)

CAMARA.

ANTONIO LUIZ DE COSTA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 132.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 19th instant, in reply to my two notes of the 20th of March and 17th of this month, on the subject of the free African John, who sought and obtained my protection.

In my first-mentioned note I requested that steps might be taken for establishing John's liberty, and for punishing, if there should be ground for so doing, the individual who had illegally kept him in slavery.

The first part of this request has now been satisfactorily disposed of by the transmission to me, for which I beg to return your Excellency my best thanks, of the certificate, declaratory of John's liberty, issued on the 5th of May by the Judge of Orphans of this capital.

With regard to the second part of that request, it appears to me that the Imperial authorities have hitherto confined themselves to taking down the depositions of the pretended proprietor of John and the incriminated party, Senhor Antonio Luiz da Costa, without adopting any further measures towards elucidating the matter, and promoting the ends of justice.

According to Senhor da Costa's own deposition of the 5th of April last, a copy of which has been inclosed to me by your Excellency, he admits having been informed by John that the latter had been resident on the British soil; consequently he must have known that John, on his return to Brazil, was free according to the laws of the Empire: but notwithstanding the knowledge of that fact, he subsequently, having reduced John to slavery, offered him for sale.

Senhor da Costa's further statement that he was ignorant that John had obtained a British instrument by which he might consider himself free, does not appear to me to afford a sufficient excuse for his conduct, for it must have been known to him that the circumstance alone of John having touched the British soil, made him a free man.

It likewise seems to me that it would be desirable to take the deposition of Captain Barreto, of Arrozal, to whom John was offered for sale, but who, as John believes, was induced not to purchase him because John declared to him that he was a free man.

Under these circumstances I beg to submit to your Excellency the propriety of adopting further measures and proceedings with a view to ascertaining how far Senhor da Costa may not have rendered himself amenable to the laws for having reduced a free man to slavery.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 6 in No. 132.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 27, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which under date of the 25th instant was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., in which, referring to the statements subscribed to by Antonio Luiz da Costa before the Chief of the Police of the capital, desisting from all claims of right over the African John, who was declared at the Cape of Good Hope to be free, he says that the authorities of the Empire confined themselves only to that statement, and did not endeavour to find out to what extent the said Costa had committed himself by the fact of having reduced to slavery the negro John, who was a free man, from the simple fact of having trod on British ground, a condition of which the said Costa could not have been ignorant.

Having addressed myself upon this subject to the Minister of Justice, I expect that his Excellency will enable me to reply thereon to Mr. Howard, to whom I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 133.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

IN the middle of last month a liberated African, of the name of Hilario, waited upon me, and presented to me a petition, in which he stated that he was one of those Africans who had been hired out to private individuals; that he obtained his certificate of emancipation in virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December of last year, on the 22nd of March last; that since that period he had been placed and had remained in the House of Correction, where he had to work for the Government without receiving any wages, whereas he could gain a good livelihood were he free by following his profession of a mason. He accordingly prayed me to interfere with the Imperial Government in order to obtain his full liberty, as well as that of all the emancipated Africans similarly circumstanced, and now in the House of Correction, and who, as he stated in answer to my inquiries, were upwards of 100 in number.

I thought it right to explain to Hilario that I did not exercise any authority in this country. I therefore recommended him and the other emancipated Africans in question to submit their cases individually in petitions to the Brazilian Minister of Justice for his favourable consideration, and I promised on my part to render my assistance by communicating with the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject.

I accordingly addressed on the same day, the 17th of July, to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the note, in that sense, of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy, and I received from his Excellency the preliminary answer, dated the 19th of the same month, of which the annexed is a translation, stating that he had applied to the Minister of Justice, in order to enable him to reply to me.

I beg to add that I will not fail to keep my attention directed to this affair.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 133.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that the case of an emancipated African Hilario (Congo), No. 77, of the cargo of the schooner "*Cesar*," has been brought under my notice, with the request that I would intercede with the Imperial Government in order that he and others similarly situated may be restored to full liberty.

This African obtained his certificate of emancipation on the 22nd of March of this year, in virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, and has since been detained in the House of Correction in this capital, without receiving, it is said, any wages for his work; whereas it is contended that he could gain a good livelihood by exercising, if free, his profession of mason.

In reply to the request thus addressed to me, I have recommended that Hilario should himself submit his case to the Imperial Minister of Justice, for his Excellency's favourable consideration; and in making this communication to your Excellency, I feel convinced that the Imperial

Government will be disposed to accede to his or similar applications, whenever they can prudently do so, in order that the emancipation of the Africans in question may become a reality.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 133.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 19, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to me, under date of the 17th instant, in which he mentions having been informed that an African named Hilario, Congo, belonging to the crew of the schooner "*Cesar*," was detained in the House of Correction, in spite of his having obtained on the 22nd of March of this year, his certificate of emancipation, and requests that he may be restored to full liberty, as well as all others who may be in the same circumstances; and in reply I have the honour to inform him that I have applied to the Minister of Justice for the necessary intelligence, to enable me to answer the note of Mr. Howard, to whom, on this occasion, I reiterate, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 134.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of May last, I have the honour of inclosing translations accordingly, of a further correspondence which has been exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and myself, on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Limpo de Abreo argues in his note of the 15th ultimo, in reply to mine of the 15th of May (a copy of which was inclosed in my above-mentioned despatch of the 15th of May), that the free Africans employed in the public establishments, although they are not to be released from that service until they are reexported, receiving in the meantime wages after fourteen years' service, cannot be considered as slaves any more than the colonist, the orphan, the soldier, and the sailor, who serve for pay.

In a note of the 17th of July, I confined myself in the first instance to acknowledge the receipt of his note of the 15th, a copy of which I mentioned that I would transmit to your Lordship, and to acquainting his Excellency with the approval contained in your despatch of the 27th of April last,* of my note to him of the 3rd of March.

But Senhor de Abreo having afforded me another opportunity of replying to him, by acknowledging on his part the receipt of my note of the 17th July, in a note of the 18th of July, in which he says that the Imperial Government continued to think the Decree of the 28th of December of last year sufficient for the present, but that they will not hesitate to make in it such alterations as experience may recommend, I addressed, on the 25th of July, to his Excellency a further note, stating my persuasion of the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government would learn the assurance given by him in respect to such contingent alterations, but at the same time my opinion that the latter were already called for, and contesting, with reference to his previous note of the 15th July, the analogy which he had sought to draw between the condition of the free Africans

* No. 80.

in the public service, and that of the colonist, the orphan, the soldier, and the sailor.

I further pointed out to his Excellency, that according to the information which I had collected, it is only in some of the public establishments that the free Africans in question receive a small daily allowance, whereas in others no pecuniary payments are made to them.

In a note of the 28th of July, Senhor de Abreo informed me that he had addressed himself, on the subject of my note of the 25th, to the Minister of Justice, and would reserve his reply to me until he should have heard from the latter.

Having yesterday received your Lordship's despatch of the 4th ultimo, directing me to inform Senhor de Abreo that Her Majesty's Government approve the observations contained in my note of the 15th of May last, respecting the condition of the liberated Africans, and that they take the strongest interest in the fate of this class of individuals, and feel bound to secure for them all the protection and privileges to which they are entitled, I embodied these instructions in a note of this day's date, to his Excellency.

I trust that the gradual pressure exercised by these repeated communications to the Brazilian Government may not be without some beneficial result, at least, for the unfortunate Africans in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 134.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which, under date of the 15th of May last, was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., in which, referring to my note of the 8th of said month, in reply to Mr. Howard's of the 3rd of March upon the question of the emancipation of the freed Africans, he says, that he cannot but note the observation made by me in my said note of the 8th of March, that the freed Africans employed in the public departments and establishments are not comprehended in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, with regard to the exemption from service, to which they are bound, even after the fourteen years, until the effecting of their reexportation; but that they are to earn wages after that period, which will be awarded to them.

Mr. Howard, in contesting that observation, advances inadmissible propositions.

He assumes that the Africans employed in the public departments are not free, or do not enjoy their liberty; this assumption is incorrect, unless he considers as slaves the colonist, the soldier, the orphan, who serve for pay, the sailor, &c.

To these observations of Mr. Howard, I will answer that this exception is founded upon the danger or inconvenience which would result to public order from letting loose upon the population, where so many slaves still exist, a great number of Africans employed in the public departments. It is proper to add that in many cases those unhappy beings, the greater part of them without the necessary experience, would perhaps incur the contingency of being reduced to slavery by fraud and seduction, and that this state of subjection is to last in the public departments until their reexportation is effected.

The arguments grounded upon the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, are inapplicable to the case, because there are very few Africans in the employ of the public departments, who were thereby emancipated, and in order to admit of the application of those arguments, it would be necessary to assume that the said Africans who are employed in the public departments are deprived of the right to their liberty.

Certainly it cannot be denied that the Imperial Government have a right to subject those Africans to a residence, to a regimen, and to required

CLASS B.

service, when their full liberty is incompatible with public order, when, besides, that subjection is provisional, and even enforced for the benefit of the said Africans.

Upon these grounds I think that I reply in a satisfactory manner to Mr. Howard's said note, and reiterate, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 134.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I received, during the course of the past month, a despatch from the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, informing me that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve of the note which I addressed to your Excellency on the 3rd of March last, on the subject of the emancipation of the liberated Africans, in reply to yours of the 3rd of the preceding month.

I have at the same time the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 15th instant, on the same subject, a copy of which I will not fail to transmit to my Government by the first opportunity.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 134.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 18, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. H. F. Howard, &c., addressed to me under yesterday's date, informing me that he had received a despatch from his Government approving of Mr. Howard's note of the 3rd of last March, on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans, in reply to that of the 3rd of February from this Ministry.

Mr. Howard informs me at the same time that he is in possession of my last note on the same subject, dated the 15th instant, and that he will not fail to transmit by the first opportunity a copy of it to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

Knowing the view which Her Britannic Majesty's Government takes of this discussion in question, it is right that I should inform Mr. Howard that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor continues to think that the terms of the Decree of the 28th of December of last year, provide, as much as is possible in the present circumstances, for the emancipation of the Africans who have been declared free, and in the meantime it will not hesitate to make such modifications in the said Decree as experience shall recommend, with a view to the benefit of those Africans, as soon as this can be done without inconvenience.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 134.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving the note of the 18th instant, addressed to me by your Excellency, in reply to mine of the preceding day's date.

I am persuaded that Her Majesty's Government will learn with satisfaction the assurance therein contained, that the Imperial Government will not hesitate to make such alterations in the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December of last year, concerning the free Africans in the service of private individuals, as experience shall recommend, with a view to the benefit of those Africans, as soon as this can be done without inconvenience.

At the same time, with regard to your Excellency's statement that the Imperial Government continue to think that the terms of that Decree provide, as much as is possible under present circumstances, for the emancipation of the Africans to whom it relates, I beg leave to observe that according to the information which I have quite recently received, there are a great many free Africans who, partly from the impediments thrown in their way by their actual masters, and partly in consequence of the difficulties which are offered by the formalities of petitioning required by the Decree, are unable to achieve their emancipation, and that I am therefore still further confirmed in the opinion which I have taken the liberty of expressing in my previous notes, that an early modification of that Decree would be desirable.

But whilst I repeat that I am convinced that Her Majesty's Government will receive with pleasure the above-mentioned assurance in your Excellency's note of the 18th instant, on the subject of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last, I do not think that they will be disposed to recognise the analogy which your Excellency seeks to draw in your note of the 15th instant, and upon which you, in great part, found your arguments as opposed to those contained in mine of the 15th of May, between the condition of the free Africans employed in the public departments and establishments, and that of the colonist, the orphan, the soldier, and the sailor, who serve for pay.

The condition of the former appears to me, on the contrary, to be quite dissimilar.

Whatever contracts may be entered into by the colonist are in virtue of his own free will, and are generally, I believe, for a limited period, and, although on quitting his native country he may originally have determined not to return to it for good, it not unfrequently happens that he does so. The period when the orphan attains his majority is definite and legally fixed. The soldier and the sailor either enlist or are enrolled, according to the legislation of the country to which they may belong, for a limited number of years, at the expiration of which they are at perfect liberty.

But what is the condition of an African in the position of one of those employed in the Imperial public departments?

He has been torn from his own country years ago, and transported to a distant and foreign land. There, having been declared free, he remains to all intents and purposes a slave, his emancipation being indefinitely adjourned, and made dependent upon his reexportation. It may fairly, however, be questioned whether that reexportation will ever take place, when it is considered that nearly twenty-three years have elapsed since, in the Brazilian Law of the 7th of November, 1831, the intention of reexporting the Africans illegally introduced into the Empire was announced; that during that long interval nothing has been done to carry that intention into effect, but that, on the contrary, your Excellency informed me, in your note of the 3rd of February last, that invincible difficulties had hitherto prevented its realization. Under these circumstances I consider that I am fully justified in my assertion that the free Africans in question, among whom your Excellency admits there are

some, although few, emancipated by the Mixed Commission established under the Convention of the 28th of July, 1817, are not in a condition analogous to that of the class of persons referred to by your Excellency in your note of the 15th instant.

With regard to the statement contained in your Excellency's note of the 8th of May last, and alluded to in your note of the 15th instant, that the same Africans were to receive, after fourteen years' service, a salary to be awarded to them, I beg to observe that, if I am correctly informed, they receive indiscriminately in some of the public establishments, besides clothes and food, a small allowance of 80 reis per diem, whilst, in other such establishments, no pecuniary payments are made to them. It thus appears that the measure announced by your Excellency has not yet been carried out.

In thus offering these remarks, in reply to your Excellency, I beg to add, that I am by no means insensible to the considerations of public order which may render precautionary measures advisable in respect to the manumission of so large a body as that of the liberated Africans in the public service, if their reexportation is not to be effected; but it may be supposed that, as they have been for so great a length of time under the immediate control of the Imperial authorities, their training and education, in order to prepare them for full liberty, would have been duly attended to.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 134.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 28, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to me on the 25th instant, in which he still makes some observations upon the necessity of modifying the Decree of the 28th of December last, in order to ensure the complete emancipation of those Africans who are employed by private individuals, and the condition of those who serve in the public establishments.

Having addressed myself to the Minister of Justice respecting the subject of this note, I reserve, until I shall have heard from his Excellency, an opportune reply thereto to Mr. Howard, to whom I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 134.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that, having transmitted to the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, copies of your Excellency's note to me of the 8th of May last on the question of the emancipation of the free Africans, and of my note in reply of the 15th of the said month, I have received a despatch from his Lordship instructing me to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government entirely approve the observations contained in my note in question respecting the condition of the free Africans, and that Her Majesty's Government take the strongest interest in the fate of this unfortunate class of persons, and feel bound to secure for them all the protection and privileges to which they are entitled.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 135.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 13th of June last, I this day conveyed in a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the measures taken by the Brazilian Government, in order to intercept a schooner which was expected to arrive in the neighbourhood of Tramandahy from the coast of Africa, with a cargo of slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 136.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 6th of July last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have this day expressed in a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the zeal and vigilance displayed by the Brazilian Consul-General at Hamburgh, in preventing the employment for the Slave Trade of the Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which arrived at Bremen in April last, for the purpose of being fitted out as a slaver.

I may remark that the vessel in question is notorious in the annals of Brazilian slave-trading.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 137.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 10, 1854.

AMONGST the observations in the Chevalier de Macedo's note of the 27th of June last to your Lordship, on the subject of Viscount Palmerston's speech in the House of Commons on the question of the repeal of the Act of Parliament of 1845, a copy of which note, and of your Lordship's reply of the 6th of July, your Lordship has been so good as to forward to me in your despatch of the 8th of the same month, I remark that he takes credit to the Brazilian Government for modifying their customs' tariff in a manner favourable to the consumption of English goods, and for granting the demands of Her Majesty's Government relative to the property of Englishmen dying intestate in Brazil.

Upon the first point, I beg leave to remark, that from the information which has been furnished to me by English merchants here, it appears that since the expiration of our Commercial Treaty with Brazil of 1827, when British goods became liable to a duty double that to which they were subjected under the Treaty, no essential modification of the Brazilian tariff profitable to British merchandise has taken place.

With regard to the second point, if the Chevalier de Macedo means

to imply, as appears from his note, that the Brazilian Government have yielded to the requests of Her Majesty's Government on the question of inheritances, he is in strange ignorance of the real state of the case; and either cannot have received, or must have overlooked, the report presented to the Legislature on the 15th of May last, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of his own country, in which Senhor Limpo de Abreo refers to the still unsatisfied demands of Her Majesty's Government on the subject, and publishes some of the correspondence of Her Majesty's Legation here with the Brazilian Foreign Department. If the Chevalier de Macedo could be the means of settling this question as satisfactorily as he seems to think it has already been arranged, he would confer a great benefit upon Her Majesty's subjects residing in this country, as well as upon Her Majesty's servants who, for the last nine years, have been labouring in vain to induce the Brazilian Government to accede to the reasonable wishes of Her Majesty's subjects.

Your Lordship having completely refuted, in your reply, the arguments by which M. de Macedo has sought to disprove Viscount Palmerston's observations, attributing the cessation of the Slave Trade in Brazil to the operation of the Act of 1845, and to its more stringent enforcement in 1850 and 1851, I will only take the liberty of remarking that his Lordship's opinions, as confirmed by the expression of your Lordship's own views, are those of all the many foreign residents in this country with whom I have conversed on the subject, and that their accuracy is admitted by all the impartial Brazilians I have met. Moreover, I am confident that the greatest part of those Brazilians who think it patriotic publicly to deny their justice, are internally convinced of it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 138.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

AS bearing upon the subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 28th of February last, and of my despatches of the 10th and 12th of April,* I have the honour to inclose the translation of a motion made yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies by Senhor Wanderley, President of the Province of Bahia, and ordered to be taken into consideration, proposing a project of law prohibiting the conveyance of slaves from one province of the Empire to the other, with the exception of those travelling with their masters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 138.

Extract from the "Jornal do Comercio" of Rio de Janeiro, of August 11, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Chamber of Deputies, in the first part of this morning's order of the day, judged various projects worthy of consideration, and amongst them the following:

“The General Legislative Assembly resolves—

“Article 1. The dealing in and conveyance of slaves from any one to another Province of the Empire is prohibited, under the penalties of the Law No. 581 of the 4th of September, 1850. Those slaves are excepted

* Nos. 82 and 84.

who travel in company with their respective owners, not exceeding the number mentioned in the Government regulations.

“ Art. 2. All provisions to the contrary are hereby revoked.

“ *Palace of the Chamber of Deputies, August 11, 1854.*

(Signed) “ J. M. WANDERLEY.”

No. 139.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction of inclosing herewith translation of a project of law proposed yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies by Senhor Wanderley, the President of the Province of Bahia, and ordered to be taken into consideration, providing that the owners of slaves who shall grant freedom to such of them as may not be able to maintain themselves in consequence of old age or disease, shall not be exempted from the obligation of supporting them, and that slaves who beg for alms, with the consent of their masters, shall, *ipso facto*, be considered as free.

The benevolent object of this motion on the part of Senhor Wanderley, in his quality of Deputy, is to remedy the abuses which, I am sorry to learn, are not unfrequent, of masters freeing their slaves when their services are no longer of any value, and thus turning them adrift destitute, as well as of masters sending out their slaves to beg for the profit of such masters.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 139.

Extract from the “ Jornal do Commercio” of Rio de Janeiro, of August 11, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Chamber of Deputies in the first part of this morning's order of the day, judged various projects worthy of consideration, and amongst them the following :

“ The General Legislative Assembly resolves—

“ Article 1. Freedom granted to those slaves who may not be able to maintain themselves with the produce of their labour, in consequence of old age, and prolonged or incurable disease, does not exempt their owners from the obligation of supporting them, unless they are absolutely without the pecuniary means for doing so.

“ Art. 2. Those slaves who beg with the consent of their owners, will, from that fact, be considered free, although they may not be similarly circumstanced as those mentioned in the foregoing Article.

“ Art. 3. The Judges of Orphans are to compel those owners of whom the first Article treats, to maintain the manumitted slaves, or to grant them an alimentary pension, if they should be placed in charitable establishments; and are to grant certificates of freedom to those slaves of whom the second Article treats.

“ Art. 4. All other provisions to the contrary are hereby repealed.

“ *Palace of the Chamber of Deputies, August 11, 1854.*”

(Signed) “ J. M. WANDERLEY.”

No. 140.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th of May,* inclosing a copy of my note of the 5th of that month to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, respecting an advertisement offering for sale a young African negress, who from her age ought to be entitled to her liberty, and of which note your Lordship has done me the honour to express your approbation in your despatch of the 1st ultimo, I have the honour to inclose copies of two further notes, dated the 17th and 18th ultimo, which I addressed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, calling his attention to two other advertisements of the sale of Africans, who likewise, from the ages attributed to them, must have been imported into Brazil in contravention of the Treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Brazil, and of the Brazilian Law of 1831, and urging the Imperial Government to take effective measures to put an end to this Traffic.

I likewise beg to inclose translations of three notes which I have received from Senhor de Abreo, dated the 18th, 28th, and 29th ultimo, and of their inclosures; the first in reply to mine, dated the 5th of May, respecting the young negress; the second, in reply to mine of the 17th of July; and the third informing me that he has referred my note of the 18th of that month to the Minister of Justice.

Your Lordship will perceive from these notes, that both the young negress and the Africans mentioned in my note of the 17th ultimo, are represented to have been above the age attributed to them, having been stated to be younger in order to improve their sale, and consequently not necessarily imported since the Law of 1831.

There is an observation in my above note to the effect that I had called the attention of the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires, the Chevalier d'Oliveira, to some suspicious cases of the sales of Africans of the age of 24 and 25, by order of the Portuguese Consul-General.

It is necessary that I should state that the Chevalier d'Oliveira, who is a professed enemy to the Slave Trade, after having made the necessary inquiries, informed me that the sales in question had taken place in liquidation of a Portuguese inheritance, and in cooperation with the Brazilian authorities, and that as the Africans in question were beyond the age which would have rendered their importation since 1831 a certainty, no objection could be offered, but that I might rest assured the Portuguese Consul-General would never participate in any sale of Africans introduced into Brazil subsequently to that period.

I have been induced to take up these cases with the Brazilian Government, not from any exaggerated hope of really putting an end to similar illegal sales, but from the wish to deprive the slave-traders of that encouragement which so public and patent a violation of the law could not have failed to afford to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 140.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 17, 1854.

IN my note of the 5th of May last, to which I have not yet had the pleasure of receiving a definitive reply from your Excellency, I had the honour of calling your attention to the public advertisement for sale in this capital of a negress, an African, of from 18 to 20 years of age, who must necessarily have been imported into the Empire since the publication

* No. 102.

of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, and who is consequently entitled to her liberty.

I now beg to inclose to your Excellency the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 15th instant, in which you will observe another advertisement of a sale by the auctioneer J. Bonis, of certain slaves, the property of Senhor José Thomas Lopes, amongst whom are mentioned, Antonio (Cabinda), 23 years of age, Manoel (Benguella), 22 years of age, Antonio (Cabinda), 24 years of age.

From this statement of the ages of the Africans thus offered for sale it follows that it is clear that the one of 22 years of age must have been imported since 1831, that it is next to certain that the one of 23 years of age likewise was so, and that there is every reason to suppose that the one of 24 years of age was also a fresh importation subsequently to that period. As the sale was to take place on the same day, the 15th instant, I took immediate means of bringing this advertisement to the knowledge of the Chief of Police and of the Minister of Justice, and I am convinced that his Excellency will have ordered the necessary investigations and measures, amongst which the deposit of the Africans in question until the affair is elucidated, and the prosecution of the guilty parties, will no doubt be included. But I think it my duty likewise to call your Excellency's attention to the subject, in order that you may, if you should think proper, submit it to the Imperial Council of Ministers, so that effectual means may be devised and adopted of putting an end to such flagrant violations of the laws of the Empire as are perpetrated by the sale or reduction to slavery of Africans entitled to their liberty.

The Imperial Government are making strenuous efforts to suppress the Slave Trade by preventing the importation into this country of fresh Africans; but I beg to observe that if Africans illegally imported into this country can with impunity be sold by public auction in the capital of the Empire, such a circumstance cannot fail to encourage the slave-traders to run additional risks in braving those humane efforts on the part of the Imperial Government.

This branch of the Slave Trade, therefore, viz., the sale or reduction to slavery of Africans imported since the Law of 1831, appears to me equally to merit the serious attention of the Imperial Government—an attention which, I feel persuaded, it will meet with at their hands.

I beg further to remark that from what I learn from different quarters, I am inclined to think that the public are not sufficiently aware of the penalties incurred by those individuals who sell or purchase Africans of the class to which this despatch refers.

I likewise think it right to add that the same journal contains another advertisement of the sale by the same auctioneer, by order of the Consul-General for Portugal, of a number of slaves amongst whom there are two Africans, Cezar (Benguella), and Joaquim (Mina), both 24 years of age, beside another 25 years old, Mathias (Quillimane), to whose cases, as being of a suspicious nature, I have called the attention of the Portuguese Chargé d'Affaires.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 140.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, July 18, 1854.

AS another proof of the extensive manner in which that branch of the Slave Trade which forms the subject of my note of yesterday's date, and to which I had the honour of calling your Excellency's attention as early as my note of the 5th of May, is publicly carried on in this capital under the eyes of the central authorities of the Empire, I beg to inclose herewith an advertisement by the auctioneer C. Bittancourt, annexed to the "Jornal do Commercio" of this day, offering for sale to-day an African Affonso (Mina), 22 years of age, who must have been imported

CLASS B.

since the Brazilian Law of 1831, and another Guilherme (Mozambique), 23 years of age, who, it is next to a certainty, must likewise have been a fresh importation subsequently thereto.

At the same time I have the honour again to urge the Imperial Government, through your Excellency, to take effective measures to put down this disgraceful Traffic, not less criminal or illegal than the importation of Africans.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 140.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 18, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which Mr. Howard, &c., addressed to me on the 5th of last May, calling my attention to an advertisement in the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 3rd of the same month, offering for hire or sale, in the Rua do Sabão, No. 161, an African negress ("de nação," as is therein stated), of from 18 to 20 years of age.

Having requested from the Minister of Justice the necessary information on this subject, his Excellency has furnished me with that which appears in the despatch of the Chief of the Police of this capital, dated the 22nd of May, a copy of which I have the honour to transmit herewith to Mr. Howard, and by which it is seen that, besides other circumstances, the said negress is more than 24 years old, and not between 18 and 20, as was stated in the advertisement of the "Jornal;" the object of this reduction of age being (as the person who ordered the advertisement to be published, declared to the Chief of the Police) to call the attention of purchasers to the said negress; it being therefore impossible to confound her with Africans recently imported, she not having been introduced since the abolition of the Traffic.

Having thus answered the above-mentioned note of Mr. Howard, I renew to him, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 140.

The Chief of Police to the Minister of Justice.

(Translation.)

*Police Office of the Capital,
May 22, 1854.*

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

IN reply to the instruction of the 10th instant, accompanying the copy of the note which was addressed by the Legation of Her Britannic Majesty, on the 5th of this month, to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with reference to an advertisement in the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 3rd of the said month, by which an African negress, from 18 to 20 years of age, was offered for hire or sale, and in which instruction your Excellency directs me immediately to investigate the matter of that note, and to take for this end the necessary measures, and to report thereon accordingly; I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that the negress referred to in that advertisement being the slave of Doña Isabel da Costa Arpalhão, married, secondly, to João Martins de Paiva, was by him bestowed to his daughter-in-law, Clara Isabel Tavares, in 1847, on the occasion of her marriage with José Mendes d'Almeida, and was sold by her, with the consent of her husband, in November of last year, to Manoel José de Faria, who, having come before me, delivered to me the respective documents of the tax paid long before the date of that advertisement, and the competent register thereof, from which it appears that the said negress is called Felicidade, and is more than 24 years of age, and not between 18 and 20, as was said in the advertisement, solely with the object,

according to the statement of the person who advertised, of calling more attention to her on the part of purchasers.

Not satisfied with these researches, I summoned before me the said negress, who certainly was more than 24 years old in appearance, and speaking the Portuguese language perfectly, and in such a manner as to pass easily for a creole, declared to me that she had come here when a very young child, and in company with her mother, likewise a slave of the above-named Doña Isabel.

In consequence of what has been stated, your Excellency will admit that this African cannot, in any way, be confounded with Africans recently imported, neither can it be said, with reason, even that she was imported after the abolition of the Traffic.

(Signed) JOSE DE ANDRADE CAMARA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 140.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 28, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which, under the date of the 17th instant, was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., transmitting to me the "Jornal do Commercio" of the 15th instant, in which was published the advertisement of a sale by auction of some slaves belonging to José Thomas Lopez, amongst whom mention is made of Antonio (Cabinda), aged 23 years, Manoel (Benguella), aged 22, and Antonio (Cabinda), aged 24 years, who are supposed by Mr. Howard, even the latter, to have been imported since the date of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

As that sale was to have taken place on the same date, the 15th, Mr. Howard had immediately caused the Chief of the Police and the Minister of Justice to be apprised thereof; and expressed his conviction that his Excellency would have ordered the necessary investigations to be set about, and the three Africans in question to be placed in deposit until this affair should be elucidated, and those who should be found guilty to be prosecuted.

Mr. Howard, notwithstanding his having taken those steps, calls my attention to this subject, in order that measures may be adopted for putting an end to those flagrant transgressions of the law of the Empire, from the fact of Africans being reduced to slavery who have a right to their freedom; and the more so, because impunity in those cases cannot but encourage the slave-dealers to run the risk, and scoff at the efforts of the Imperial Government to prevent and repress their importation into the Empire.

From the inclosed records of the proceedings of the Chief of the Police of this capital, which were transmitted to me by the Minister of Justice, Mr. Howard will see the reason why the said slaves were stated to be younger than they are, the result of the statements of the experienced examiners being that they are more than 30 years old.

Therefore, as the observations of Mr. Howard concerning the condition of these Africans are inapplicable to their cases, the Imperial Government do not see the necessity of adopting any measures in this respect.

Mr. Howard, however, refers in his note to another advertisement inserted in the same "Jornal," of the sale by auction, by order of the Portuguese Consul-General, of a certain number of Africans, Cezar (Benguella), Joaquim (Mina), both of 24 years of age, and Mathias (Quillimane), of 25; and as I have already communicated that additional information to the Minister of Justice, I shall wait his Excellency's elucidations, in order, with them, to address Mr. Howard, notwithstanding that, from the ages ascribed to the said Africans, these cannot be comprised in the number of those imported since the Law of 1831.

As to Mr. Howard's former note of the 5th of last May, relative to

the public sale of a female African who Mr. Howard also supposed was so circumstanced as to be entitled to her liberty, an answer thereto has been anticipated by the note which I had the honour to address to him under the date of the 18th instant.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Record of the Interrogatory of José Bonis.

(Translation.)

On the 17th day of July, of the year 1854, in this capital of Rio de Janeiro, and in the Police Office, by virtue of an order of Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, Chief of the Police, *ad interim*, appeared José Bonis, and the said Chief of Police interrogated him as follows:—

Being asked to tell his name, age, nationality, and profession: he replied, that his name is José Bonis; is 45 years old; a native of France; is an auctioneer, licensed by the Tribunal of Commerce of this city.

Being asked where he resides, and how long he has dwelt there: he replied, that he resides at No. 75, in the Rua de Rosário, and has his sale-rooms at No. 90, in the Rua do Ouvidor.

Being asked who was the author of the advertisement of “the extraordinary sale by auction,” published in the “Jornal do Commercio” of Saturday, the 15th instant: he replied, that it was himself who had it inserted, by order of the Portuguese Consul.

Being further asked whether he effected that public sale: he replied, that he had.

Being further asked whether that sale by auction comprehended the slaves Antonio (Cabinda), of 25 years of age, and Manoel (Benguella), of 22 years of age, both sailors and steersmen; whether they were sold, and to whom, or whether they are still in his possession: he replied, that the advertisement, in that part which relates to those two slaves, was not made by him, but by their owner, José Thomas Lopes, who handed the note to his (José Bonis’) clerk, which only contained their names, nationalities, and ages, whereas the letter of instructions, to the best of his recollection, made no mention of the ages of those slaves, who were purchased by the widow Lages and Campos, residing at No. 119, in the Rua Direita; he, the respondent being of opinion that his clerk inadvertently stated those slaves to be younger than they are, because he thinks they are from 28 to 30 years old, but had seen them only during the act of putting them up for sale by auction, of which, with the consent of the agent of the Portuguese Consulate, they formed the principal part, as is seen in the final part of the said advertisement.

And no further question having been put to him, the said Chief of Police ordered this interrogatory to be closed, and has signed it along with the person interrogated.

I, Firmino José da Silva Veiga, amanuensis in the Police Office, have written this.

(Signed) RESENDE.
J. BONIS.

(Translation.)

The officer (alcalde) of the Police is to summon the widow Lage Campos, who resides at No. 119, in the Rua Direita, José Thomas Lopes, and José Bonis, to appear before me to-morrow morning, at 10 o’clock, and to desire the first above named to bring the slaves Antonio (Cabinda) and Manoel (Benguella), who were bought at the sale effected by José Bonis, on Saturday last.

Police Office of the Capital, July 17, 1854.

(Signed) RESENDE.

I certify that I summoned the defendants, José Bonis and José Thomas Lopes, personally, and brought to their knowledge the whole contents of the order, and further that I went to the counting-house of the widow Lage and Campos, in the Rua Direita, and summoned them by letter, not being certain whether they were on the Island of Enchadas or at San Clemente.

Rio de Janeiro, June 18, 1854.

(Signed)

JOAO CORREIA DOS SANTOS,
Alcalde of the Police.

Record of Appearance, Interrogatory and Examinations.

(Translation.)

On the 18th day of July of the year 1854, in this capital of Rio de Janeiro, and in the Police Office, by virtue of an order of Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, Chief of the Police, came and appeared before him Antonio Martins Lage, José Bonis, and José Thomas Lopes, the first of whom produced the slaves Antonio (Cabinda), and Manoel (Benguella), stating that they were the same that he had purchased at the auction on Saturday last, made by the second named person, who also said that they were the same slaves, which was also confirmed by the third named person, that is, that they were delivered to be sold without mention being made of the ages stated in the advertisement, they appearing to be older, and that the statement in the advertisement was caused by a mistake of his clerk, who arbitrarily represented them in a note as being younger than they are truly. And Agostinho do Nascimento Petra and Joaquim José Alves de Fonseca being present, they were named and sworn in to serve as examiners, and to state whether the slaves also present are ladinos, how old they are, or appear to be; and they having immediately proceeded upon the said examination, after interrogating and examining them, declared that the two slaves speak the Portuguese language fluently, are ladinos, and that both of them stated that they had long since come from their country, and were then very young, and that both appear to be upwards of thirty years of age. Wherefore the said Doctor, Chief of the Police, ordered the foregoing to be recorded, and has signed the present along with the other persons before named.

I, Firmino José da Silva Veiga, amanuensis in the Police Office, have written it.

RESENDE.

ANTONIO M. LAGE.

J. BONIS.

JOSE THOMAS LOPES.

JOAQUIM JOSE ALVES DA FONSECA.

AGOSTINHO DO NASCIMENTO PETRA.

Inclosure 6 in No. 140.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, July 29, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which on the 18th instant was addressed to me by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., touching the advertisement published in the "Jornal do Commercio" of that date, of the sale by auction of two Africans—Affonso (Mina), and Guilherme (Mozambique), the first of 22 and the second of 23 years of age, who are supposed by Mr. Howard to have been illegally imported since the publication of the Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

Awaiting the information which I have requested the Minister of Justice to furnish me with on this subject, and with which I may be enabled to return a suitable answer to Mr. Howard, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 141.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith translation of a note addressed to me on the 12th instant by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, acquainting me that the information which had been communicated by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, relative to an alleged landing of Africans on the coast of that Province, on the 12th of June last, had been shown to be without foundation.

Mr. Vereker had transmitted to me at the time copies of his correspondence with the President, and I had expressed to him my approval of the notes which he addressed to his Excellency on that occasion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 141.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

HER Britannic Majesty's Consul in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul communicated to the President of that province information that on the 11th and 12th of the month of June last, a landing of Africans took place at the bar of a stream which he calls Iguay, on the frontiers of that province, within a short distance of the town of Torres, adding that according to the information received by him, the Africans had been conveyed by a vessel from the coast of Africa, and put on board of a schooner, from which they were landed at the above-mentioned place, and were immediately distributed and conveyed inland.

The President of the said province, having previously been apprised by the Minister of Justice of a projected disembarkation of Africans at that place, issued immediate orders for steps to be taken to prevent it.

According to the reports received from two officers charged with the police of the coast, and who were sent to ascertain the correctness of the facts stated, it appears that no such disembarkation had been effected; but the President of the province, suspecting that it might have taken place at the bar of the Araringuá, in the Province of Santa Catharina, sent thither, without loss of time, another officer of police, with part of a detachment from the town of Torres, not only for the purpose of inquiring into these facts but also to prevent a disembarkation if the suspected vessel should approach that place, and with orders not to leave it until relieved by a person enjoying the confidence of the President of Santa Catharina, to whom he had communicated the information received and the measures he had taken.

From what I now bring to the knowledge of Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., by this communication, he will see that the information given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul respecting the disembarkation of Africans at the River Iguay, in the first of the above-mentioned provinces, where no river exists under that denomination, is groundless; which is further confirmed by the reports received by the Imperial Government from the commanders of our cruisers on the coasts of the said provinces.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 142.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of August,* inclosing copies of further correspondence which had taken place between Senhor Limpo de Abreo and yourself on the case of the free negro John, whom you suspected to have been illegally reduced to slavery, and I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 143.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of August,† in which you bring forward the case of the emancipated negro Hilario, who was detained in the House of Correction by the Brazilian Government, and thereby prevented from earning his livelihood by the free exercise of his trade; and I have to state to you in reply, that I approve your application to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and also your intention to attend to this matter, as it is one that should be inquired about and carefully watched.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 144.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 2, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th of August,‡ inclosing copies of further correspondence with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans, I have to inform you that I approve your proceedings as therein reported.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 145.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 3, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th August§ in which you point out the inaccuracy of certain statements made by the Chevalier de Macedo, in his note to me of the 27th of June last, I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of remarking to Senhor Limpo de Abreo upon the unfounded nature of the observations on commercial matters which M. de Macedo thought proper to address to me in that note.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 132.

† No. 133.

‡ No. 134.

§ No. 137.

No. 146.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatches of the 12th of August,* inclosing the projects of two laws proposed in the Chamber of Deputies by the President of the Province of Bahia, one prohibiting the conveyance of slaves from one province to another, the other having for its object the improvement of the condition of old and infirm negroes; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government would learn with great satisfaction the passing of such laws, which would do honour to the Government and Legislature of Brazil.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 147.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 5, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of August,† with its inclosures, and I have in reply to express to you my entire approval of the notes which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 17th and 18th of July, respectively, calling his Excellency's attention to two advertisements which had been published in Rio de Janeiro, offering for sale African negroes, who, from their ages, must have been introduced into Brazil since the year 1831, in contravention of the Treaty of 1826 between Great Britain and Brazil, and in violation of Brazilian law.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 148.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 18, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th instant,‡ in which was inclosed a copy of my note of that day's date to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, communicating your Lordship's approval of my despatch of the 15th of May last, on the condition of the liberated Africans employed in the Brazilian public service, and conveying the strong interest which Her Majesty's Government take in the fate of those individuals, I have the honour of transmitting herewith translation of a note of the 12th instant, which I received yesterday in reply from his Excellency, referring to the statements in his former note of the 15th ultimo, translation of which was forwarded in my above-mentioned despatch of the 10th August, in respect to the non-emancipation of the Africans in question until their reexportation, and adding that the

* Nos. 138 and 139.

† No. 140.

‡ No. 134.

Imperial Government likewise take full interest in them, and will endeavour to protect them as effectually as they can. His Excellency does not, however, announce any specific measure for their benefit.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 148.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, August 12, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which was addressed to me on the 10th instant by Mr. H. F. Howard, &c., in which he informs me of having brought to the knowledge of his Government a copy of my note of the 8th of May upon the question of the emancipation of the freed Africans, and of his reply dated the 15th of the same month, and stating that he had received instructions to acquaint me that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty entirely approved of the observations contained in Mr. Howard's above-mentioned note relative to the condition of the said freed Africans; Mr. Howard concluding with the expression that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty take the greatest interest in the fate of this unfortunate class of individuals, and that they consider themselves bound to ensure to them the full protection and privileges to which they have a right.

I have already had the honour to explain, in my former note of the 15th of July last, the reasons upon which the Imperial Government found themselves for considering that the freed Africans who are employed in the public departments are not comprehended in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, as to the exemption from service to which they are obliged, even after fourteen years, until their reexportation be effected, they earning, after the expiration of that term, wages to be awarded to them; and I have now only to add, that the Government of His Majesty the Emperor also take full interest in favour of these individuals, and will endeavour to protect them as effectually as they can.

I renew, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 149.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 19, 1854.

IN order that your Lordship may be acquainted with the language which has been employed in the Brazilian Parliament concerning the maintenance by Her Majesty's Government of the British Act of Parliament of 1845 relative to the Brazilian Slave Trade, I beg to inclose a summary of a speech held in the Senate on the 14th instant by Senhor Montezuma, commenting, in very unmeasured terms, on the course pursued by Her Majesty's Government in not consenting to the repeal of that Act.

Your Lordship will perceive that Senhor Montezuma suggests that, with a view to induce Her Majesty's Government to alter their course, an appeal should be made by Brazil to foreign Governments to pronounce themselves against that course, and that he concludes by requesting the Minister for Foreign Affairs to devise some means of forcing Her Majesty's Government to deliver Brazil from the ignominious position in which she

CLASS B.

is placed; adding that, whatever those means might be, they would be supported by the Brazilian Parliament.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, did not make any reply to this speech.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 149.

Summary of part of the Speech delivered by Senhor Montezuma, in the Brazilian Senate, August 14, 1854.

(Translation.)

SENHOR MONTEZUMA, after treating of other subjects, said, that he would only make a few remarks respecting the external policy of Brazil in general; that the President of the Senate would recollect that what he had now to say had already been said by him during the debates on the answer to the speech from the Throne; that he had then offered for consideration all that, in his opinion, was important relative to those nations with which Brazil is at peace, and to some negotiations which, according to his belief, are still pending. That amongst them he would remind the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the pending negotiation between Brazil and the British Government for the abolition of the Bill known under the name of the "Aberdeen Bill;" that the abolition of that Bill appeared to him, the orator, to be not only an act of rigorous justice, but also of extraordinary urgency; that there being neither any reason, in the opinion of every civilized Government, excepting that of Great Britain, nor in accordance with the principles of the rights of nations, for the maintaining of that Act, it appeared to him that justice demanded its repeal; that if the existence of that Bill could not be termed an act of spitefulness, an insult, or a luxury of insult, and of prepotency exercised against the Brazilian nation, he did not know what name to give it; that it was maintained, on the occasion of the passing of that Act of the British Parliament, that the Slave Trade was being carried on in the Empire, that the Treaties were violated, that the Brazilian Government did not pay attention to the remonstrances of the British Government, that a Treaty, or the draft of a Treaty, made with the Government (then a Regency) had not been approved by the Chambers (an indispensable circumstance for its being carried into effect), and that all these accumulated reasons were considered by the British Government as justifying the passing of that Bill, but that they all depended upon the continuance or cessation of the Slave Trade. But, he asked, what was now the position in which Brazil found herself? Why, the Slave Trade is completely extinguished, the Government strive, use every effort, and are most careful, not to put an end to the Slave Trade, which is extinct, but to prevent it, taking all sorts of precautions in order that it may not, in any shape, be revived. This good faith, he said, was recognised by the British Government themselves, their Agents resident in Rio de Janeiro had acknowledged it, and consequently there could not exist a shadow of doubt or suspicion on this subject. What remains, then? He asked, can the British Government suspect that the Brazilian nation will retrograde? that the Brazilian Government will break their faith? If such be their supposition they wrong the Brazilians, and wrong them gratuitously, and consequently they are the more to be censured for adhering to a line of conduct unworthy of a civilized Government like that of Great Britain, who say that they are friendly to Brazil. How is it, then, he asked, that this Bill still exists? How is it, therefore, that the just claim of the Brazilian Government is rejected? How is it that the honour, the dignity of Brazil, and the justice with which her Government insist upon the repeal of this Bill, still remain disregarded? How can the British Govern-

ment justify such a proceeding of theirs before all civilized Governments, and in the face of the rights of nations? What reasons can they give for their most exorbitant abuse of power? and ought not the voice of Parliament and of the Government, he asked, to make itself heard in all the corners of the civilized world, in all those quarters of the globe which justice and civilization have penetrated? The orator said he was convinced that, if this affair were brought before foreign Courts, if foreign Governments were to receive official communications invoking their opinions in respect to it, the judgment of every civilized Government would be unfavourable to the British Government; that the British Government, thus made ashamed by such positive and universal declaration, would have to state upon what principles of justice, on what pretext of foolish ambition and of arrogance, they found their revolting tenacity in aiming at the degradation of a nation which has so great a desire to afford to Great Britain proofs of its interest and friendship. He further remarked, that this language would doubtless appear to the Senate acrimonious on the part of an orator who had never failed to observe due decency of expression and serious behaviour upon all those occasions in which affairs touching foreign nations had been treated of; and still the more so, from the propensity which he has constantly manifested to that nation which he considered worthy of his liveliest sympathy, and, from its national character, of the highest commendation; but that, if it be taken into consideration that he had never before expressed himself in such strong terms, and that he had a right to be most desirous for the discontinuance of that iniquitous specimen of injustice, whatever might have been the cause of the bashfulness which upon other occasions kept him silent, he ought now to be allowed, Brazil being at present differently circumstanced, to think it absolutely necessary that the most energetic claim possible should be raised by the Parliament, since the efforts of the Imperial Government are not sufficient for instilling into the minds of the British Government the necessity of respecting the justice, the honour, and the independence of the Brazilian nation.

Senhor Montezuma, in concluding his speech on this subject, requested the Minister for Foreign Affairs to devise some means for forcing the British Government to deliver Brazil from the "truly ignominious" state in which she found herself, adding that, whatever those means might be, the Minister would be supported by the Brazilian Parliament, as it became necessary to remove that stain, and the injurious effects of it.

No. 150.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, August 28, 1854.

A PORTUGUESE brig, the "*Experiencia*," arrived some time ago in this port. The fact of her having a double crew on board, and other suspicious circumstances, inducing the belief that she was intended for the Slave Trade, the Brazilian authorities, according to the private information which I have received, having had their attention called to these circumstances, caused a strict watch to be kept over her proceedings; and after having interrogated the captain and consignee, gave orders that the vessel should not be permitted to be cleared out for the coast of Africa or River Plate.

The consequence of these measures has been that the "*Experiencia*," of which Joaquim da Silva Reina is the master, sailed on the 25th instant for Hamburg, with a crew of ten men, and a legal cargo of coffee, after a close search had taken place on board of her previous to her departure.

Several suspicious characters who arrived here in her, but who have remained behind, are being watched by the police.

I have thought it right to give your Lordship this information, in case you should think it proper to have the vessel in question subjected to supervision at Hamburg.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 151.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 1, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 10th ultimo,* I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the copy of a note which I addressed on the 17th of July last to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, urging the restoration to full liberty of Hilario, an African, who after having served his apprenticeship of fourteen years, and having obtained a certificate of emancipation in March of this year, was subsequently detained in the House of Correction, as well as of the other Africans similarly situated in the same establishment.

I have since received from his Excellency the note of the 22nd ultimo, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, informing me that the Minister of Justice had, on the 19th of the same month, issued orders that a fresh certificate of emancipation should be granted to Hilario, on certain conditions, with a view to his being placed in the possession of full liberty.

This note, however, not making any mention of the other Africans detained in the House of Correction under similar circumstances, I addressed on the 24th ultimo, to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, the note of which the annexed is a copy, again claiming his Excellency's good offices in their behalf, in order that they may likewise, at length, obtain their promised emancipation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 151.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, August 22, 1854.

HAVING addressed myself to the Minister of Justice, in order that measures might be taken for restoring to full liberty the emancipated African Hilario (Congo), No. 77, of the cargo of the schooner "*Cæsar*," as requested by Mr. H. F. Howard, &c., in his note of the 17th of July last, his Excellency has just acquainted me, in his despatch of the 19th instant, that the said African has not been a prisoner, but has only been detained in the House of Correction, receiving a reasonable compensation for his services; and that suitable orders had, on that date, been issued for the granting to him of a fresh certificate of emancipation, with the condition that he is to reside in this capital, and follow some kind of trade, or take service on wages, he remaining in full liberty.

This is all that I have to say to Mr. Howard in answer to his above-mentioned note; and I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

* No. 133.

Inclosure 2 in No. 151.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 24, 1854.

IN acknowledging the receipt of the note which your Excellency has done me the honour to address to me under date of the 22nd instant, I beg to express my best thanks for the welcome intelligence conveyed in it, that orders have been issued that a fresh certificate of emancipation should be granted to the African Hilario, treated of in my note of the 17th ultimo, and that he should, on certain conditions, be restored to full liberty.

With respect to the statement contained in your Excellency's note regarding the reception by Hilario of a reasonable compensation for his services during his detention in the House of Correction, I think that, upon further inquiry, your Excellency will find that, up to the date of my above-mentioned note of the 17th of last month, no payment had been made to him.

Moreover, as your Excellency does not make any mention in your note of the other numerous Africans referred to by me, who are in circumstances similar to those of Hilario—having served private individuals during fourteen years, and having been emancipated in virtue of the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December last, but who are likewise detained in the House of Correction—I take this opportunity of again claiming your Excellency's good offices in their behalf, in order that they too may at length be placed in the enjoyment of their promised emancipation. I feel convinced that if it were known that such of these individuals as may not be able to establish themselves in a trade, are at liberty to take service on their own account, they would experience no difficulty, considering the scarcity and high price of labour at present, in finding employment and earning their livelihood in a manner not calculated to create any apprehension of their disturbing public tranquillity; and it is only fair to assume that they could count upon every assistance on the part of the Imperial authorities, to whom, however, I beg to suggest that instructions should be given in that sense.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 152.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 6, 1854.

IN addition to the correspondence exchanged between the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs and myself, on the subject of illegal sales of Africans entitled to their liberty, copies of which were inclosed in my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* I have the honour of transmitting herewith the translation of a further note of yesterday's date, which I have received from Senhor Limpo de Abreo, stating, with reference to the observations contained in my note of the 17th of July last to his Excellency, concerning certain Africans sold by order of the Consul-General of Portugal, the conviction of the Chief of Police of this capital, from the inquiries which he had instituted into their cases, that there was no plausible reason for supposing that they had been imported into this country since the publication of the Brazilian Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* No. 140.

Inclosure in No. 152.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 5, 1854.

IN addition to the note which I addressed on the 28th July last to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., in reply to his of the 17th of said month, in that part relative to the Africans Cesar (Benguella), Joaquim (Mina), and Mathias (Quillimane), the sale of whom at auction, by order of the Portuguese Consul-General, had been advertised in the number of the "Jornal do Commercio" which accompanied his said note, I have the honour to inform him, that even if the two first named should be 24, and the latter 25 years of age, as Mr. Howard states, it does not follow that they have been imported since the Law of the 7th of November, 1831; and to add further, that the Minister of Justice, of whom I requested information respecting the true age of those Africans, answered me on the 29th of last August, that the Chief of Police of this capital acquainted him, that after having taken the customary steps with regard to examinations and interrogatories, he was convinced that no plausible reason existed for judging that they had been imported since the publication of that law.

Now as there are no other infallible means of ascertaining with exactitude the ages of individuals placed in such circumstances, the Imperial Government consider that they cannot with justice proceed in any other manner until documents should be exhibited which would prove incontestably that the said three Africans were imported subsequent to the promulgation of that law.

The latter part of Mr. Howard's said note being thus replied to, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 153.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 8, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 24th of July last, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the publication of the Imperial Decree of the 5th of June of this year, sanctioning the Law passed by the Legislature for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 154.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th ultimo,* transmitting, amongst other correspondence, a copy of my note of the 25th of July last to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo d'Abreo, urging further proceedings against Senhor da Costa, who reduced the African John to slavery on the return of the latter to Rio Janeiro from the Cape of Good Hope, I have the honour to inclose herewith the translation of a note of the 5th instant, which I have

* No. 132.

received from his Excellency in reply, and from which your Lordship will perceive that the Imperial Government are unwilling to prosecute the affair.

I have likewise the honour of transmitting the copy of a note which I have this day addressed to Senhor Limpo d'Abreo in rejoinder, suggesting, with reference to his Excellency's remark that there is no law in this country which expressly considers Africans who have quitted Brazil for foreign countries to be free on their return to it, that the Imperial Government should take this question into their most attentive consideration with a view to clearing up all doubt concerning it, and to remedying, by legislative enactments, so serious a deficiency.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 154.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 5, 1854.

I DULY brought to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice the contents of the note dated the 25th of July last, in which Mr. Henry Francis Howard, &c., still treating of the affair of the black man John, says that the authorities of the Empire had confined themselves to the statement made by Antonio Luiz da Costa, without endeavouring to ascertain to what extent he had committed himself by the fact of attempting to reduce the said negro to slavery.

I have now the honour to acquaint Mr. Howard, in reply to his above-mentioned note, that the Minister of Justice has just informed me that, according to the reports received from the competent authorities, the Imperial Government was convinced that nothing more could be done, the said Costa having alleged before the Court of Justice his ignorance as to the said negro's having been declared free at the Cape of Good Hope, and the Chief of the Police and the competent Judge having recognized the good faith with which the said Costa conducted himself in this affair, all of which appears from the documents inclosed in my note of the 19th of July last: besides which criminality in this case is doubtful, there being no law in this country which expressly considers Africans who have fled to foreign territories to be free upon their return to the Empire.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 154.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note of the 5th instant, in which, in reply to mine of the 25th of July last, you state the reasons for which, in the opinion of his Excellency the Minister of Justice, no proceedings could be taken against Senhor da Costa, the alleged master of the African John, adding that, in the case in question, criminality is doubtful, as there is no law in this country which expressly considers Africans who have fled to foreign countries to be free on their return to Brazil.

In expressing my inability to acknowledge the validity of these reasons, I beg to remark that it appears that John did not flee from this country, but was captured by a British cruizer, whilst on a voyage to the coast of Africa with his first master.

Moreover, I had been led to believe that the actual legislation of this country fully met the case of John; but as your Excellency states that

there is no law which expressly declares Africans who have once been slaves in this country, to be free on their return to it, I take the liberty of suggesting that the Imperial Government, who have lately introduced such wise and comprehensive provisions into the legislation of the Empire for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, should take this question into their most attentive consideration, with a view to clearing up all doubt concerning it, and to remedying by legislative enactments so serious a deficiency.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 155.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a note of the 9th instant from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, inclosing to me copies of two reports of the 27th ultimo and 1st instant, addressed to him by the Presidents of the Provinces of Rio Grande do Sul and St. Catharine's respectively, the first transmitting the copy of a despatch of the 14th of August from Mr. Consul Vereker, and the second covering, amongst other documents, copies of a correspondence with Mr. Consul Callander, all relating to the question of the alleged landing of Africans on the coasts of those provinces.

As your Lordship will, however, have already, no doubt, received from Her Majesty's Consuls both at Rio Grande and St. Catherine's, copies of the correspondence in question, it will be unnecessary that I should trouble your Lordship with them.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo, in his above-mentioned note to me, says that I shall perceive from these papers, that all the accounts which have reached the said delegates of the Imperial Government, agree in denying the fact of such a disembarkation of Africans having taken place, as well as that the same authorities continue to exercise the strictest vigilance and care, in order to prevent the accomplishment of a crime so contrary to the laws and to civilization as the Traffic of Africans.

I have thanked his Excellency in a note of this day's date for his obliging communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 156.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 11, 1854.

IT having come to my knowledge that cases had occurred of Brazilian marauders having entered the territory of the Oriental State of the Uruguay, and having carried off negroes and mulattoes, for the purpose of selling them in Brazil as slaves, which circumstance had given rise to representations to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs from the Envoy of the Oriental Republic here, Senhor Lamas, I called the attention of Mr. Vereker, Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande, to this subject, in the despatch of the 17th ultimo, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy; and I have received from him the reply of the 25th of the same month, a copy of which is likewise herewith transmitted, confirming the information that had reached me.

At an interview which I had with Senhor Limpo de Abreo yesterday, I alluded to this subject; and I learnt from him that he had replied to

Senhor Lamas, at the time, that instructions had been forwarded to the President of Rio Grande do Sul, with a view of putting a stop to these lawless and criminal proceedings; and that the result of the measures taken by that functionary was, that some of the kidnapped negroes had been recovered and replaced in liberty.

The "Diario" of Rio de Janeiro of the 5th instant announces the fact of a negress and four of her children, who had been stolen in the Oriental State, having been discovered by the authorities of Rio Grande, and their captors apprehended in that province; whilst active measures had been set on foot by the President of the same province, to find the traces of the negro belonging to the same family, who, it appears, had been led in a different direction.

On a comparison of dates and description, I find that the negress in question, with her family, corresponds to the one mentioned by Mr. Vereker as Rufina.

The same journal also mentions other similar cases which have occurred, of negroes having been carried off from the Oriental State into Brazil.

I observed to Senhor Limpo de Abreo that I had not addressed him officially on this question, as I was aware that the matter was in the hands of the Monte Videan Minister, but that I would leave with him an extract from Mr. Vereker's above-mentioned despatch, which I accordingly did.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 156.

Mr. Howard to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, August 17, 1854.

I UNDERSTAND that cases have occurred in which Brazilian marauders have entered the territory of the Oriental State of the Uruguay from the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, and have carried off negroes and mulatto children for the purpose of selling them in the Brazilian slave-markets, and I have to request you to obtain and transmit to me such information as you may be able to procure on the subject.

As I am informed that the Minister of the Oriental State at this Court has been directed to call the attention of the Imperial Government to this affair, I have no doubt that the President of the province where you reside will by this time have received some instructions on the subject, but since the above information was given me, I have not had an opportunity of seeing the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

You will observe that this is a case rather for a verbal than for a written inquiry of the President.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 156.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, August 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 17th instant, and have to state in reply that you are correctly informed with regard to the fact that various subjects of the Republic of the Uruguay have been seized with the view of being sold in Brazil into slavery. I have also to state that my anxious attention has been for some time directed to this subject, and in a report regarding slavery addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State on the 30th June last, I felt it my duty incidentally to allude to the existence of such acts of cruelty and injustice.

I am informed that a negress named Rufina, her paramour Mathews,
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her two sons and two daughters, all residents near Leivas, in the Oriental State, were seized by some Brazilians about six months since, and sold into slavery in this province.

I am also informed that on the 7th June last two sons, one daughter, and one step-son of Rosa, a negress residing in the department of Duraso in the adjoining Republic, were forcibly seized and brought to this province for sale.

My information leads me to think that these depredations are committed by an organised gang, who avail themselves of the difficulties experienced in the Republic of the Uruguay, where the extensive frontiers are not protected with a sufficient guard.

I have not had an opportunity to make a verbal communication on this subject to the President of this province, who resides at Porto Alegre, but shall not fail to do so should the occasion present itself.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 157.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 1st ultimo, and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 24th of August, respecting the emancipado Hilario, and other emancipados entitled to their freedom, who are still detained in the House of Correction at Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 158.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 28, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve of the representation which you have made to Senhor Limpo de Abreo, respecting the Brazilian marauders who have been kidnapping negroes in the State of Uruguay, and selling them in Brazil.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 159.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 11th ultimo,† and I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on that day, respecting the case of the African named John.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 156.

† No. 154.

No. 160.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

NOTWITHSTANDING that I have repeatedly had occasion to communicate to your Lordship the denial by the Brazilian Government of the accuracy of the report of a landing of Africans in June last, on the coasts of the Province of St. Catherine's, or Rio Grande do Sul, I think it my duty to transmit herewith the translation of a note of the 15th instant, which I have received on the same subject from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, and of its inclosures; viz., a despatch from the Commodore commanding the Brazilian Naval Station at Rio de Janeiro, and a report from the Commander of the Brazilian war-steamer "Recife," stating his persuasion that no such disembarkation of Africans had taken place during the period of his cruise.

I have acknowledged the receipt of his Excellency's communication in a note of this day's date, and acquainted him that I would transmit a copy of it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 160.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., the inclosed despatch to the Rear-Admiral in charge of the head-quarters of the marine, from the Commodore commanding the naval station in Rio de Janeiro, inclosing copy of another from the Lieutenant commanding the war-steamer "Recife."

The Imperial Government called upon this Commander for information respecting the disembarkation of Africans, which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul stated to the President of the Province had taken place on the 11th or 12th of June last at a place which he named Iguay; and Mr. Howard will see that the Commander of the steamer, in giving a circumstantial account of all that happened during the time in which he was employed in cruising between the Island of St. Catherine's and Rio Grande do Sul, does not hesitate in manifesting to the Imperial Government his persuasion that no disembarkation of Africans took place whilst he was cruising on the coasts of the Provinces of Santa Catharina and Rio Grande do Sul.

This information, furnished by the Lieutenant commanding the "Recife" steamer, entirely agrees with that which has been transmitted to the Imperial Government, and which the Undersigned has already brought to the knowledge of Mr. Howard in his notes of the 12th of August last and of the 9th instant, and appears to confirm the inaccuracy of the rumours spread of the disembarkation of Africans, reported to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO

Inclosure 2 in No. 160.

Commodore Mariath to Rear-Admiral Mello e Alvim.

(Translation.)

On board the steamer "Amazon,"

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, September 1, 1854.*

THE information given by the Commander of the steamer "Recife" in the inclosed despatch, fully demonstrates that the report of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande do Sul of a landing of Africans having taken place on the 11th or 12th of June of this year at a place named by him Iguay, is without foundation.

This information is corroborated by the reports made by the said Commander, and by those of the steamers "Pedro Segundo" and "Beberibe," which, since the middle of May, have cruized from Santa Catharina to the south, and who uniformly agree in asserting that no landing, nor any attempt of that nature, has been made in those quarters.

According to the report of the Commander of the "Recife," a national schooner, to which he gave chase and boarded one day in July, was beating during twelve days, in sight of the coast, against contrary winds, and this, in my opinion, is the origin of the report made to the English Consul, and which was transmitted by him to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) **FREDERIC MARIATH,**
Commodore, and Commanding the Station.

Inclosure 3 in No. 160.

Second Lieutenant Moreira to Commodore Mariath.

(Translation.)

From on board the steamer "Recife," at

Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *Rio de Janeiro, August 30, 1854.*

IN virtue of the order addressed to me by your Excellency under yesterday's date, that I should, without delay, inform you where I was on the 11th and 12th of June last, as well as the steamer "Pedro Segundo," I have to state to your Excellency that on the above-mentioned days I was cruising on the coast to the southward of Santa Catharina, off the places comprehended between that island and some miles south of Cape Santa Martha Grande, and that I did not board any vessel, having met with none. There is, perhaps, a mistake with regard to the month, because in July, at about the same dates, whilst cruising off those places, I chased and boarded the national schooner "Cysne," belonging to Domingo Velloso de Oliveira, a merchant of Santa Catharina, Thomas Xavier de Souza, master, from Rio Grande to Santa Catharina, with produce of the country, which, from strong north-east winds, was beating up for more than twelve days in sight of the coast, and being in want of water, which I could not supply him with in consequence of bad weather, I advised him to go to Imbituba, he being to windward of that place, which lies to the northward of Laguna, and he reached it whilst I was in sight of that port. With regard to this schooner, I can assure your Excellency that she was not conveying Africans, and I am persuaded that, during the time that I was cruising on that coast, no disembarkation of Africans took place.

I also boarded the patacho "Emiliana" on the night of the 11th July off Tramandahy, which was bound to Rio Grande, and on the following day, passing within hail of many vessels which were hove-to off the bar of that port waiting for sufficient depth of water to enter it, the said schooner was also amongst them.

As to the steamer "Pedro Segundo," she was at anchor in the port of Santa Catharina. On the 4th instant, when I came to anchor in this port, I did not address your Excellency, having nothing further to observe than what I mentioned in the observations accompanying the report of the vessel, as well as in the despatch of the 23rd of July which I had previ-

ously addressed to your Excellency from Santa Catharina by the steamer "Prinzeza Leopoldina."

Herewith I have the honour to return to your Excellency the despatch of the 25th instant, and the copy of the 8th of same month, from the Minister of Foreign Affairs which accompanied, your Excellency's above-mentioned order.

God preserve, &c.

For the First Lieutenant, Commanding,
Delfino Carlos de Carvalho,
(Signed) JOSE DA CUNHA MOREIRA,
Second Lieutenant.

No. 161.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 12th ultimo and of the 6th instant,* I have the honour to transmit herewith the translation of a note, dated the 16th of this month, and of its inclosures, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, in reply to the last of the notes (dated the 18th of July last) which I addressed to his Excellency on the subject of the illegal sale of Africans, and of which a copy was inclosed in my first-named despatch of the 12th ultimo.

It will be seen from these papers that the Africans referred to in my note are, like all the rest, stated not to have been imported since the Law of the 7th of November, 1831, nor to be as young as they were represented.

If no other good should result from this correspondence, at least the public scandal will be avoided of the advertisement for sale of Africans whose stated ages imply their introduction since the Law in question, consequently their illegal importation into this country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 161.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, September 16, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has already had the honour of acknowledging the receipt of the note which Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c., addressed to him on the 18th of July last, respecting the advertisement published in the "Jornal de Commercio" of that date, of the sale at auction of the two Africans Affonso (Mina) and Guilherme (Mozambique), the former of 22 and the latter of 23 years of age, whom Mr. Howard supposes to have been illegally imported since the Law of the 7th of November, 1831.

The Undersigned, in conformity with what he stated in his said note to Mr. Howard, requested the Minister of Justice to furnish him with information respecting the fact mentioned by Mr. Howard; and being now in possession of those elucidations, he has the honour of transmitting them to Mr. Howard in the herein inclosed copies; No. 1 containing the interrogatory, before the Chief of Police of this capital, of the auctioneer Castro Bitancourt, with respect to the sale of the said slaves Affonso and Guilherme; and No. 2 the record of the appearance, declarations, and minute examinations before the said magistrate concerning the said slaves.

From these documents Mr. Howard will see that the Africans in

* Nos. 140 and 152.

question were not imported since the before-mentioned Law of the 7th of November, 1831, and that it is also untrue that they are as young as is stated in the advertisement.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 161.

Interrogatory of José Joaquim Coelho Castro Bitancourt.

(Translation.)

IN the year 1854, and on the 2nd of September, in the Police Office of the capital, and before the Chief of that Department, Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, appeared José Joaquim Coelho Castro Bitancourt, by virtue of a summons of the said Chief, who put to him the following questions:

Being asked what is his name, his age, condition, profession, nationality, and residence: he replied, that his name is José Joaquim Coelho Castro Bitancourt; that he is 32 years of age; is a bachelor, a native of the Province of Minas; is an auctioneer, and resides at No. 93 in the Rua de San Pedro.

Being further asked if the Africans named Affonso (Mina), 22 years old, and Guilherme (Mozambique), 22 years old, comprehended in the advertisement in the "Jornal de Commercio" of the 18th of July last, were sold, and to whom, and for whose account the auction was effected: he replied, that the said slaves were not sold, and were advertised for account and by order of Manoel Bernardes, who dwells in a warehouse in the Rua de San Pedro, No. 93, who is the owner of Affonso; and that the slave Guilherme was delivered to him by José Antonio de Carvalho; that he neither knows him nor the place of his residence, but supposes that he resides in the Rua dos Benedictinos, or in the Rua Nova de San Bento; that both of the said slaves were returned to the said Bernardes, they not having been sold.

He further said that he advertised the sale of those slaves in consequence of written instructions from Manoel Bernardes and José Antonio de Carvalho, both dated the 18th of July last, which he exhibited, and remain in this office; it being seen from them that both these slaves are 24 years of age.

And the Chief of the Police has ordered the above to be recorded, which he signs along with the respondent.

I, José Joaquim Ignacio de Almeida Lacerda, Amanuensis of the Police Office have written this.

(Signed)

RESENDE.

JOSE JOAQUIM COELHO CASTRO DE
BITANCOURT.

Inclosure 3 in No. 161.

Record of Appearance, Declaration, and Examinations.

(Translation.)

ON the 5th September, 1854, and in this Police Office of the capital, appeared before Dr. Theophilo Ribeiro de Resende, Chief of the Police, Manoel Bernardes da Costa Silva and José Antonio de Carvalho, presenting the slaves Affonso, of the Mina nation, belonging to the former, and Guilherme, of the Mozambique nation, belonging to the latter; saying that they were the persons who advertised, on the 18th of July last, the sale of them by auction at the sale-rooms of Castro Bitancourt; and that the sale had not been effected, in consequence of no one choosing to bid the prices asked for them.

The former further declared, that he has been five years in possession

of the slave Affonso, having purchased him, when already a Ladino, from Manoel Antonio da Silva Pereira, as is seen from the title which he exhibits.

And the latter states that he has been about six years in possession of the slave Guilherme, having bought him at a public auction by order of the Dr. Judge of the orphans in this city, as is seen from the certificates of sale, of the tax paid, and from other documents exhibited by him, and which have been examined; both of the parties declaring that, with regard to the advertisement of their ages being of 22 and 23 years, those are not their ages, because Affonso, purchased on the 2nd of August, 1849, at the age of 20 years, as is seen in the bill of sale, must now be at least 25 to 26 years old, if not older, as is probable, and which is likewise seen in the receipt for the tax paid on the 29th of August, 1849; and that the slave Guilherme was purchased, when 27 years old, on the 20th of July, 1852, as is seen from the receipt of the tax paid on that date, and must now be about 29 years old.

They further declared that the statement in the advertisement of the said slaves being younger, doubtless happened for want of due reflection, and because it is the custom in public sales to mention probable ages, and always to make them out younger than they are, in order to effect more advantageous sales of them.

And Agostinho do Nascimento Petra and Joaquim José Alves da Fonseca being present, the Chief of the Police administered to them the oath on the Holy Evangelists, charging them to examine the said two slaves, and to state, on their consciences, whether they appeared to be of the ages mentioned in the advertisement, or if older, and in the latter case, to state what are their probable ages; and to examine, further, if they were imported after the Law of 1831, making inquiries for that purpose of the said slaves of the periods when they came to Brazil, in what vessels, where they landed, and who were their first masters; all of which they promised to comply with. And having made the said examinations and inquiries they declared that the slave Affonso must be from 28 to 30 years old, he having stated that he came from his country when very young; was landed at Bahia; that he does not remember the name of the vessel, nor of his first master. And that as to the slave Guilherme, he appears to be about 26 years old, and stated that he landed at Ponta do Caju, also when very young; does not remember the name of his first master, who resided in the Rua da Prainha. And they said nothing more.

And the Chief of Police ordered the foregoing to be recorded, and signs the same along with the presenters and surveyors.

I, José Ignacio de Lacerda, have written this.

(Signed)

RESENDE.

MANOEL BERNARDES DA COSTA E SILVA.

JOSE ANTONIO DE CARVALHO.

AGOSTINHO DO NASCIMENTO PETRA.

JOAQUIM JOSE ALVES DA FONSECA.

No. 162.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

THE Project of Law, of which I had the honour to inclose a copy in my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* brought into the Chamber of Deputies by Senhor Wanderley, President of the Province of Bahia; prohibiting the conveyance and transfer of slaves from one province of the Empire of Brazil to another, came under discussion in that Chamber, but was not voted upon previous to the close of the session of the Legislature on the 12th instant, and consequently stands over until the next session.

* No. 138.

This proposition met with considerable opposition, principally from the members of the Southern Provinces, into which, as your Lordship is aware, large transfers of slaves have lately taken place from the Northern Provinces. Its adversaries contended that it would be impolitic, and moreover that it would be a violation of the rights of property guaranteed by the Constitution of the Empire, as it would prevent the owners of slaves from disposing of them, like other property, in the best market.

The supporters of the measure, on the other hand, denied the validity of this argument, saying, that the Constitution, it was true, guaranteed the rights of property, but that at the same time it expressly admitted of limitations in the exercise of those rights when required in the interest of the public good, a contingency which they contended was applicable to the case in point. One member likewise remarked, that such a limitation in respect to slave property already existed, because although a proprietor could kill his ox or his horse, he was not at liberty to slay his slave. Although the same members certainly brought forward in favour of the proposal the philanthropic considerations connected with the object of avoiding the separation of families, yet they principally founded their arguments upon the impolicy of withdrawing from the northern sugar-producing provinces the hands necessary for the cultivation of the soil, and thus exposing them to ruin, as also upon the danger of agglomerating a large number of slaves in the southern towns, where they might be easily replaced by free labourers, and in the southern provinces generally, where the coffee plantations required much less manual labour.

The opponents persisted in maintaining, however, that the measure would be unconstitutional, and in reply to the philanthropic considerations urged by its advocates, they observed that the separation of families, by dividing and sending slaves from one part of a province to another, where they had no prospects of reuniting, was tantamount and as cruel as that involved in transferring them from one province to another. With respect to an agglomeration of slaves on particular points, they contended that the demand would regulate the supply, and that things would find their own level.

As, nevertheless, a strong feeling was shown in favour of the measure on the part of those Deputies whose interests are connected with the Northern Provinces, as well as of those who consider that it would diminish the evils of slavery, it is likely to be brought forward again next session.

That party, likewise, out of the Chambers, which has been always strongly opposed to the Slave Trade, advocate it warmly. One of its most distinguished members told me that he considered the first thing that ought to be done would be to put a stop to the transfer of slaves from one province to another, then to remove them from the towns to the country, and attach them to the glebe, thus preparing the way for emancipation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 163.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, September 21, 1854.

THE Project of Law, a copy of which I had the honour of transmitting in my despatch of the 12th ultimo,* as introduced into the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies by the President of the Province of Bahia, Senhor Wanderley, containing various humane provisions in favour of aged or diseased slaves, did not come under discussion in that Chamber previous to the close of the session of the Legislature, thus standing over till the next meeting of the latter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* No. 139.

No. 164.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 5th ultimo, calling my attention to the remarks contained in the despatch of the 4th of May from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, of which your Lordship has forwarded me a copy, as to the difficulty experienced by the emancipated slaves in Brazil, who have acquired their own freedom, in procuring passages to Africa, and to his suggestion that Her Majesty's Consuls in the principal ports in Brazil might possibly be able to assist them by their interposition.

In order to carry out, to the best of my judgment, your Lordship's directions to take any steps for this object that may appear to me practicable, I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in this country the circular despatch of this day's date, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, instructing them to afford every assistance in their power, when the occasion presents itself, to these negroes, in any arrangements which the latter may be able to make for their passage to Africa.

I have, however, distinctly given Her Majesty's Consuls to understand that I do not authorize them to make any pecuniary outlay on account of Her Majesty's Government in the execution of this instruction.

The difficulty to which Mr. Consul Campbell alludes, arises, I conceive, principally from the want of sufficient funds on the part of the negroes, and from the circumstance that the necessary number of them to freight a vessel can rarely be collected together; consequently they are reduced to availing themselves chiefly of passages in Portuguese and Brazilian vessels.

As your Lordship informed me, by your despatch of the 16th of January of this year, that Her Majesty's Government had been obliged to abandon the scheme formerly entertained by Viscount Palmerston, of affording a passage to Africa from Rio de Janeiro, to a number of free negroes, at the expense of Her Majesty's Government, I have not thought myself at liberty to allow of any expenditure on this head, without special instructions from your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 164.

Circular to Her Majesty's Consuls in South America.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1854.

I BEG to inclose to you the copy of a despatch* from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, to the Earl of Clarendon, which has been transmitted to me by his Lordship, respecting the emancipated slaves in Brazil, who have acquired their own freedom, and are desirous of returning thence to the coast of Africa.

The Earl of Clarendon having called my attention to Mr. Campbell's remarks as to the difficulty which these poor people experience in procuring passages to Africa, and to his suggestion that Her Majesty's Consuls at the principal ports in Brazil might possibly be able to assist these negroes by their interposition, I have, on my part, to direct your attention to these points, and to instruct you to render every practicable assistance, when the occasion may present itself, to the negroes in question, by advice and by aiding them in any arrangements they may be able to make for their passage to Africa in British vessels, if possible, according to Mr. Campbell's suggestion, but if not, in such other vessels in which they may not be subjected to ill-treatment or imposition, as well as by friendly interposition with the Imperial local authorities, in case of such negroes experiencing any difficulties on the part of the latter, taking

* No. 4.

care however to avoid any undue interference likely to lead to irritation. I beg you, however, distinctly to understand that I am not empowered to authorize you to make any pecuniary outlay on the account of Her Majesty's Government in the execution of this instruction.

I am, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 165.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1854.

IN the evening of the 30th ultimo, Viscount Paraná, the President of the Council of Ministers, sent a gentleman of my acquaintance to me to communicate to me that a rich planter of this province had informed him that a Sardinian, purporting to be the captain of a slaver, to have been bound to the Havana, but to have arrived off the coast between Rio de Janeiro and Cape Frio, partly dismasted, under American colours, and with a cargo of Africans, had offered to sell him slaves at 400\$000 (45*l.*) per head; but the planter having refused to purchase any, the vessel had stood out to sea with the apparent intention of proceeding northwards.

Under these circumstances, Viscount Paraná announced that the Brazilian Government would send out cruizers to take other measures, and at the same time his Excellency invited my cooperation.

I accordingly addressed a despatch the same evening to Commodore Finch requesting him to send off one of Her Majesty's ships to cruize off the suspected points, and, moreover, to convey the information I had communicated to him to the Commanders of Her Majesty's cruizers on the station, a request which he lost no time in complying with.

I further addressed despatches to Her Majesty's Consuls at Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, and Pernambuco, conveying to them the intelligence in question, and enjoining upon them to keep a watch over suspicious vessels, and to report to me any information they might obtain, instructing the Vice-Consuls within their jurisdiction in the same sense.

Yesterday morning Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Trident" returned from Cape Frio, without her Commander having obtained any information concerning the vessel in question, and the result of the various inquiries and investigations set on foot by the Brazilian Government has hitherto been that the report of her appearance was unfounded. The planter, to whom I have referred, repeats that a person representing himself to be the captain of the slaver had offered him Africans for sale; but the story appears to have been a mystification, although it is not improbable it may have been got up by the slave-dealers in order to sound the ground with a view to some new speculations.

I have, nevertheless, thought it right to report succinctly the above-mentioned circumstances, in proof of the friendly manner in which Viscount Paraná sought my cooperation.

I spoke to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, to-day on the subject. He thought that a steam-vessel which had gone to the assistance of a merchant-vessel which had been in distress near the place indicated, might have been mistaken for a slaver, but he assured me that the Imperial Government would continue to exercise the strictest vigilance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 166.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 21, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that I approve the circular instruction which you have addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil, directing them to assist the liberated Brazilian negroes in making arrangements for their passage to Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 167.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,† reporting the steps which you took upon learning the report communicated to you by Viscount Paraná, that a slaver was on the coast to the north of Rio Janeiro; and I have to communicate to you my approval of your proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 168.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of August,‡ I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch§ from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Hamburgh, reporting the result of the inquiries which he had been instructed to make respecting the Portuguese brig "*Experiencia*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 169.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 1st ultimo,|| I have the honour to state that I notified, under yesterday's date, to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, your Lordship's approval of my proceedings in the case of the free negro John, as reported in my despatch of the 10th of August last.¶

My motive in doing so was to show the continued interest taken by Her Majesty's Government in favour of the African race.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

* No. 164.

† No. 165.
|| No. 142.‡ No. 150.
¶ No. 132.

§ No. 250.

No. 170.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, I beg to state that I yesterday addressed a note to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating your Lordship's approval of my proceedings on the subject of the emancipation of the free Africans in the public service of Brazil, as well as in the service of private individuals, as reported in my despatch of the 10th of August last*; my object being to give weight to the representations I had made in their favour.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 171.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that I yesterday notified to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the approval conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th ultimo, of the notes which I had addressed to his Excellency on the 17th and 18th of July last respectively, relative to advertisements offering for sale African negroes who, from the ages attributed to them must have been introduced into Brazil since the year 1831.

I took the same opportunity of communicating to his Excellency your Lordship's approvals contained in your despatches of the 1st and 3rd of July, of my previous notices of the 5th and 10th of May, relative to the advertisement of the illegal sale of a young African negress, and to the baptism, in the first instance as a slave, of the daughter of a free negress.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 172.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch to me of the 1st ultimo,† I have the honour of inclosing the copy of a note which I addressed on the 8th instant to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and in which I have taken the opportunity afforded by your Lordship's approval of my application to his Excellency on the subject of the emancipated African Hilario, who had been detained in the House of Correction of this capital, to remind him that I have not yet received an answer to my subsequent note of the 24th of August (a copy of which was transmitted in my despatch of the 1st of September,‡) relative to the other emancipated Africans, in circumstances similar to those of Hilario.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 172.

Mr. Howard to Senhor Limpo de Abreo.

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, November 8, 1854.

HAVING transmitted at the time to the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copies of my note of the 17th of July last to your Excellency, and of your Excellency's note to me of the 19th of that month, on the case of the emancipated African Hilario, then detained in the House of Correction of this capital, and of other emancipated Africans similarly circumstanced, I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I have received a despatch from his Lordship, dated the 1st ultimo, communicating to me his approval of my application to your Excellency, as well as of the intention which I had announced of keeping my attention directed to this matter.

In the meantime I have not failed to transmit likewise to the Earl of Clarendon, a copy of your Excellency's note to me of the 22nd of August last, acquainting me with the orders issued by his Excellency the Minister of Justice, for the restoration of the said Hilario to full liberty; as well as of my note to your Excellency of the 24th of the same month, thanking your Excellency for that intelligence, whilst again claiming your good offices in order to obtain the complete liberty of the other emancipated Africans detained in the House of Correction under circumstances similar to those of Hilario, but to whom no reference is made in your Excellency's above-mentioned note.

Not having yet been honoured by your Excellency with a reply to my note, I beg to recall the subject of it to your recollection; for although I feel confident that your Excellency will have interested yourself in behalf of the Africans in question, nevertheless I am desirous of being enabled to inform Her Majesty's Government, on your Excellency's authority, not only that they have been placed in the possession of full liberty, but likewise that the Imperial Government will take measures in order that there may be no unnecessary delays in conferring that blessing upon such other Africans as may have obtained, or may be entitled to, their emancipation.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 173.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 18.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 13, 1854.

AT an interview which I had yesterday with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senhor Limpo de Abreo, I remarked that I feared the withdrawal, in order to form part of the contemplated naval expedition against Paraguay, of the Brazilian steam-vessels hitherto employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, as well as of those lately purchased at considerable expense in England for the same purpose, might lead to a revival of that Traffic.

I stated that, according to the information I had received, the slave-dealers here had written to their friends and associates in Portugal, that the circumstance of the proposed withdrawal of the vessels in question, as well as of the diminution of the British squadron, consequent upon the attention of Her Majesty's Government being now directed to the Baltic and Black Sea, would afford a favourable opportunity for Slave Trade speculations to this country; and I inquired of his Excellency what arrangements the Imperial Government intended making to replace the cruisers so removed.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo replied that the same information had been given to him, but that the slave-dealers would find themselves mistaken,

for the Brazilian Government would not relax their vigilance, and the steam-vessels referred to would be replaced, although in great part by sailing-vessels; but should it be necessary the Government would purchase small steamers expressly to serve as cruisers against the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 174.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th ultimo,* and I have to state to you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 8th of that month, again calling his attention to the case of the emancipated Africans who were illegally detained in the House of Correction at Rio de Janeiro.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 175.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of November,† in which you give an account of a conversation which you had had with Senhor Limpo de Abreo, respecting the facilities which appeared likely to be given to Slave Trade by the withdrawal of Brazilian men-of-war from the coasts of that country, I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government trust that the Brazilian Government will adhere to the intention expressed by Senhor Limpo de Abreo, of taking measures to replace the vessels in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 176.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 14, 1855.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 7, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 13th ultimo,* I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a copy of my note of the 8th of that month to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, reminding his Excellency that I had not yet received an answer to a former note of mine on the subject of certain emancipated Africans detained in the House of Correction of this capital.

I now beg to inclose a translation of a note of the 5th instant, which has been addressed to me by Senhor Limpo de Abreo, stating that the Imperial Decree of the 28th of December of last year, which applies to the cases of such Africans, is being carried out, and that the Imperial Government are disposed to grant emancipation to those Africans who, having completed fourteen years in the service of private individuals, are entitled to it under that Decree.

Having myself visited the House of Correction a short time ago, I ascertained that the emancipated Africans, in whose favour I had interested myself, belonging to the class who had served private individuals, had been set at liberty; and I likewise learnt with gratification

* No. 172.

† No. 173.

that the worthy director of that establishment, Senhor Falção, was taking measures to ameliorate the condition of the free Africans employed in it who had been fourteen years in the service of the State.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 176.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo to Mr. Howard.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 5, 1854.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the notes which were addressed to me under the dates of the 24th of August and 8th of November of the present year by Mr. Henry F. Howard, &c.

In the former Mr. Howard returns thanks for the certificate of emancipation which the Imperial Government ordered to be granted to the freed African named Hilario, he being thus placed fully at liberty, under certain conditions.

In the latter Mr. Howard claims the extension of similar favours to other Africans, who, being under identical circumstances, and having served private individuals during the space of fourteen years, were emancipated in virtue of the Decree of the 28th of December last.

Having brought the subject of these notes to the knowledge of the Minister of Justice, calling upon him for the necessary elucidations, his Excellency has just stated to me that the said Decree is being carried out, and that the Imperial Government are disposed to grant, in the manner therein established, emancipation to those Africans who, having completed fourteen years' service of private individuals, are entitled to it.

Replying thus to the two above-mentioned notes, I avail, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO PAULINO LIMPO DE ABREO.

No. 177.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 7th of December last, inclosing a copy of a note from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which he states that the Imperial Decree of December 28, 1853, for the emancipation of negroes who have completed fourteen years of service, was being carried out, I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government approve your proceedings in this matter, and have learnt with satisfaction that the emancipated Africans in whose behalf you had interested yourself had been set at liberty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 178.

Mr. Howard to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 24, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith a translation of a Decree, signed on the 10th instant by the Emperor of Brazil, and published yesterday, imposing a fine of 20\$000 to 200\$000 (2*l.* 5*s.* to 22*l.* 10*s.*), and the penalty of imprisonment for eight days, upon the captains or masters of vessels who, contrary to the provisions of the Regulations of the 31st of January, 1842, shall convey slaves from one province of the Empire to the other without passports.

The principal object of this Decree I understand to be, to restrict the practice, which is now carried on upon a large scale, of sending slaves from the northern provinces to the market at Rio de Janeiro, and by which those provinces are deprived of the necessary hands for field labour.

It will likewise be available for impeding the transfer from one province to the other, and particularly to this province, of slaves of notoriously bad characters, with the view of obtaining a better price for them than where they are known, as well as of negroes and others, of whom it may be presumed that they either have been, or are intended to be, illegally reduced to slavery.

It has been remarked that several assassinations of their masters and suicides have lately been committed in this province by slaves imported from the northern provinces.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Ministry of Justice.

IT is my pleasure, in execution of the Law No. 261 of the 3rd of December, 1841, to decree the following:

Article 1. Those captains or masters of vessels who, contrary to the provision of the 70th Article of the Regulation No. 120 of the 31st of January, 1842, shall convey slaves from any one of the provinces to another of them without passports, will incur the fine of 20\$000 to 200\$000, and be imprisoned eight days, independent of the criminal penalties to which they may be liable, and the slaves are to be detained until it be proved who are the proprietors, by whom sent or by whom received, if they should not be well known persons.

Art. 2. The said fine and imprisonment are to be imposed by the police authorities, in the port of departure, in any port where the vessel may touch during the voyage, or in the port of her destination, in the manner prescribed in the 80th Article of the said Regulation.

José Thomas Nabuco de Araujo, one of my Councillors, Minister and Secretary of State for the Affairs of Justice, is to cause this to be carried into execution.

Given at the Palace of Rio de Janeiro the 10th of January, 1855, the thirty-fourth year of Independence and of the Empire.

(Signed by the Emperor.)
(Countersigned) JOSE THOMAS NABUCO DE ARAUJO.

No. 179.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 28, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Bahia, and of the answer* which I have returned to him respecting the right of the Brazilian authorities at Bahia to exact securities from foreign vessels taking a portion of their cargoes from thence to the west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Nos. 185 and 191.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Bahia*.

No. 180.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(No. 3.)

My Lord,

Bahia, March 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ended this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure 1 in No. 180.

LIST of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854. Jan. 20	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride	100	9	G. Ansaldo ..	Not known ..	Oil ..	Porto Novo ..	28
2	" 26	Ditto .	Smack	Fulmine	146	10	E. Torres ..	Ditto ..	Ballast ..	Acará ..	23
3	Feb. 4	French	Brig ..	Gabrielle et Charles ..	174	12	— Albert ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	37
4	" 4	Hamburg	Barque	Mary Annie ..	292	14	S. Reis ..	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Lagos ..	
5	" 14	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilano . . .	73	9	A. de L. Encarnação	Ditto . . .	General ..	Ajudá ..	36
6	" 25	British	Schooner	Index	181	10	A. Morrison . . .	G. J. Jackson ..	Ballast ..	Loanda ..	26
7	Mar. 10	Sardinian	Patacho	Josephine ..	180	9	J. P. Muzatonio ..	Not known ..	Ditto ..	Onim ..	25
8	" 28	British	Barque	Windermere ..	372	16	W. Langcake ..	W. Rotheram ..	Ditto ..	Loanda ..	25

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1854.

Inclosure 2 in No. 180.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	Remarks.
1	1854. Jan. 21	British	Brig	Emily	232	10	R. S. Duffell	John Forster	Rum & tobacco	Cape Coast Castle	
2	" 26	French	Ditto	Cesar	225	10	Chas. Roy	Not known.	Ditto	Coast of Africa	
3	Feb. 2	Portuguese	Patacho	Cezar	175	11	Antonio José Caiao	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
4	" 13	Ditto	Barque	Linda Flor	223	5	Antonio Joaquim Vereira	Ditto	General	Ditto	Having 224 free blacks on board.
5	" 18	Ditto	Patacho	Dons Irmãos	123	11	D. da Costa Lage	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
6	Mar. 1	Sardinian	Ditto	Iride	110	10	G. Ansaldo	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
7	" 9	Hamburg	Brig	Harrict	295	12	— Hunter	Ditto	Ditto	St. Jorge d'Elmina	
8	" 11	French	Ditto	Gabriele et Charles	225	10	— Sanglar	Ditto	Rum	Coast of Africa	
9	" 27	Portuguese	Yacht	Aguia	144	10	A. Alves Amorim	Ditto	General	Ditto	

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

British Consulate, Bahia, March 31, 1854.

No. 181.

Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the accompanying lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 181.

List of Vessels which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the quarter ending June 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854 April 6	Portuguese	Yacht	Veloz	160	12	João Chrisostomo ..	Not known ..	Oil ..	Prince's Isle ..	26
2	June 11	French	Schooner	Helène	154	9	— Marten	Ditto	Ballast ..	Goree	29
3	" 29	Portuguese	Patacho	Dous Irmãos ..	123	11	D. da Costa Lage ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Porto Novo ..	26

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1854.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 181.

List of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending June 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.	REMARKS.
1	1854 April 7	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilia	103	..	.. ..	Not known ..	General ..	Coast of Africa	
2	" 12	Ditto	Patacho	Mondego	103	13	G. Waddington ..	Ditto	Wood, &c. ..	St. Thomas and Prince's Isle	
3	" 22	Ditto	Barque	D. Francisca ..	392	17	A. Dios dos Santos	Ditto	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa	Cleared for London.
4	May 3	Sardinian	Polacca	Luigiana	220	11	E. Demoro	Luigi Bian dri ..	Rum, &c. ..	Ditto	
5	June 17	Portuguese	Yacht	Veloz	162	8	A. G. dos Santos ..	Not known ..	General ..	Ditto	

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1854.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

No. 182.

Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the half-yearly return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL.

 Inclosure in No. 182.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the district of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending December 31, 1853.				For the half-year ending June 30, 1854.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males	700\$ to 800\$		81 13 4 to 93 6 8		750\$ to 900\$		85 18 9 to 103 2 6	
„ Females	650\$ 750\$		75 16 8 87 10 0		700\$ 800\$		80 4 2 91 13	
Creole Males	800\$ 900\$		93 6 8 105 0 0		850\$ 950\$		97 7 11 108 17 1	
„ „ with professions	1,000\$ 2,000\$		116 13 4 233 6 8		1,000\$ 2,000\$		114 11 8 229 3 4	
„ F males	700\$ 800\$		81 13 4 93 6 8		750\$ 850\$		85 18 9 97 7 11	

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL.

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1854.

 No. 183.

Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 4.)

My Lord,

Bahia, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that a Joint Stock Company has been formed in this city, for the promotion of the introduction of Chinese into the province of Bahia.

In consequence of slaves having been sent in large numbers to the southern parts of the Empire, and the mortality common amongst the blacks employed in agriculture, a great want of labour has arisen in this Province, the planters being unable to supply this deficiency from fresh importations of negroes, as was formerly the case.

The introduction of free labourers amongst the slave population on the sugar estates is a dangerous experiment, and however ably the present scheme may be conducted, I much fear that the result will not be at all commensurate with the expectations entertained regarding it.

Artificers, servants, and workmen are not so much required here, although it is the intention of the Company to promote their immigration also.

It does not appear that any privileges or immunities are intended to be conferred by Government upon the colonists when the term of their contract for servitude has expired.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL.

No. 184.

*Acting Consul Wetherell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received
December 4.)*

My Lord,

Bahia, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the accompanying lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade between this port and the coast of Africa during the quarter ending this day.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 184.

List of Vessels which have arrived at the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Cr. ew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854 July 9	Sardinian	Patacho	Iride ..	100	10	G. Ansaldo .	Not known	Ballast	Brocussu ..	24
2	Aug. 6	Portuguese	Yacht	Agua ..	103	10	A. A. d'Amorim ..	Ditto ..	Oil, &c.	Ajudá ..	23
3	Sept. 3	Ditto	Barque	Linda Flor ..	177	14	A. Jm. Ferreira ..	Ditto ..	Ballast	Aghwey ..	26
4	" 20	Ditto	Yacht	Emilia ..	108	9	A. C. C. Giraldes ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Porto Novo	29

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1854.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 184.

List of Vessels which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending September 30, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1854 July 6	Portuguese	Brig	Liberal ..	290	14	B. M. Nogueira ..	Not known	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
2	Aug. 9	Ditto	Patacho	Dous Irmãos ..	161	10	J. M. Santos d'Aquilla ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto
3	" 28	Dutch	Schooner	Goudkust ..	198	9	— Olivekande ..	Ditto ..	Rum ..	St. George d'Elmina
4	" 28	Sardinian	Polacca	Giudetta ..	174	10	E. Chiozza ..	Ditto ..	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
5	" 30	Ditto	Patacho	Iride ..	110	10	G. Ansaldo ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto
6	Sept. 7	Hamburg	Schooner	Sylphide ..	155	11	— Meyer ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto
7	" 17	Portuguese	Patacho	Progresso de Bissáu ..	132	13	L. A. Rochodes ..	Ditto ..	Sundries	Bissau
8	" 26	Sardinian	Polacca	Destino ..	208	11	L. Giustiviano ..	Ditto ..	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
9	" 29	Ditto	Ditto	Maria ..	196	10	M. Dodero ..	Ditto ..	Ditto	Ditto

British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1854.

(Signed) JAMES WETHERELL, Acting Consul.

No. 185.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Bahia, December 26, 1854.

A QUESTION of a novel nature, but of some importance—as the Slave Trade can now be considered as extinct at this port—has attracted much attention of late on the part of the Consular body and commercial community, which makes it incumbent on me to acquaint your Lordship thereof, and to solicit your instructions when the misapplication of Brazilian regulations should require my assistance for the protection of British shipping and interests on similar occasions.

The French ship “Camelia” from Hâvre, arrived in this port on the 31st October last. On giving entry at the custom-house the master presented two manifests of his cargo, one showing that a part was destined for Bahia, and the other in transit for Whydah on the coast of Africa. Both manifests were legally documented by the French authorities at Hâvre, and in like manner certified by the Brazilian Consul, in accordance with the fiscal regulations of the Empire.

After discharging her cargo for this destination, the “Camelia” took a portion of the produce of the country, but when ready to proceed to sea was refused a clearance, on the plea that she must give security for the value of the ship as well as for the cargo which she brought from Hâvre (composed of 156 bundles of staves for pipes, and 678 barrels of cowries) which had been legally shipped and cleared at the aforesaid port of Hâvre.

This pretension on the part of the export department gave rise to much comment, and one and all naturally supposed it would have been resisted as a most unwarrantable assumption tending to supervise the acts of the fiscal authorities of a foreign country, which alone possessed the right to understand the laws bearing on its own navigation.

I regret to acquaint your Lordship that notwithstanding the advice asked of the Netherlands Consul and myself, by the master and consignees of the “Camelia,” against the arguments adduced by us and others to the Chancellor of the French Consulate, now acting as Consul, on a like application, the latter consented, and, as I am told, advised, the master to obtain and to give the security in question; thus subjecting his flag to a regulation which can only be intended to apply to Brazilian shipping, or to such foreign ships that took suspected cargoes at a port of the Empire, but which certainly could never be legally applied to a vessel in transit competently cleared by the fiscal authorities of her own country on a legal adventure.

This question is one of importance at the present moment, inasmuch as the trade from Great Britain and other parts of Europe indirectly with the coast of Africa through this port is on the increase for the supply of palm-oil; and if such a regulation is to be binding on foreign shipping, aside from the restrictions imposed by Treaties on their respective countries, to which Brazil is no party, it would tend to exclude many British vessels from accepting favourable charters for that destination, as many consignees are not to be found who would like to subject themselves to such onerous responsibilities when once their trade is acknowledged to be a *bonâ fide* legal one by their own authorities, and who expect their flag shall be exempt from the misinterpretations of the common principles of international custom and right.

As I can only consider such an assumption on the part of the fiscal authorities of this port, supported, as I understand, by the Imperial Government, as a *sui generis* mode of applying their own regulations, similar in every respect to the pretension already manifested in relation to the Netherlands ship “Gouverneur Van der Eb,” which was the subject of my despatch of 6th June, 1853,* I believe it will be my duty to resist such a pretension, unless instructed by your Lordship to the contrary.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 172.

A precedent, however, is now established by the Acting-Consul of a powerful nation, which will only strengthen similar pretensions, and on like occasions place other Consulates who should attempt to resist them in a false and invidious position.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

No. 186.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 7, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 18th of August, 1853,* stating that you had been informed that the unusual quantities of rum and tobacco which were then being shipped at Bahia for the coast of Africa were intended to be employed in the purchase of slaves, I transmit herewith, for your information, an extract of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, confirming the correctness of your report above mentioned, and containing information relative to your periodical lists for 1853 of vessels trading between Bahia and the coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 187.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

I HAVE received a despatch from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, inclosing a copy of a letter which he addressed to you on the 14th of December last, containing information respecting the trade carried on between Bahia and the coast of Africa; and I have to instruct you to communicate to Mr. Campbell, from time to time, such intelligence respecting the equipment of vessels at Bahia, or any movements connected with the Slave Trade, as you may consider likely to prove useful to him in his endeavours to thwart the proceedings of the slave-dealers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 188.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Bahia, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the quarterly returns of the navigation to and from the coast of Africa.

At the same time I feel great satisfaction in acquainting your Lordship that no sign of any description appears to exist to prove that the trade with the coast of Africa is not a legal one. The greater part of the shippers to the coast are now respectable individuals who represent various establishments in Europe, all of whom, from what I have been able to collect, are interested in the supplies received from that quarter in a fair barter for the produce of this country. Nevertheless, the provincial authorities are vigilant, and I apprehend there is little fear of the Slave Trade being revived at this port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 176.

† No. 32.

Inclosure 1 in No. 188.

LIST of VESSELS which have arrived at the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1854 Oct. 2	British	Schooner	Deslandes	143	8	John Durrell	G. Deslandes	Ballast	Coast of Africa	23
2	" 15	French	Polacca	Robuste	176	10	Dubois Antoine	Not known	Ditto	Acará	42
3	Nov. 14	Hamburg	Schooner	Sylphide	130	12	— Meyer	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	28
4	" 18	Portuguese	Patacho	Dous Irmãos	123	10	J. M. S. Aguila	Ditto	Ditto	Porto Novo	31
5	" 28	Ditto	Yacht.	Veloz	161	8	A. G. dos Santos	Ditto	Oil, &c.	Ajudá	28
6	Dec. 16	French	Polacca	Victoire	170	9	— Aster	Ditto	Ballast	Coast of Africa	55
7	" 17	Hamburg	Brig	Henrich	220	10	— Sphier	Ditto	Ditto	Lagos	28

British Consulate, Bahia, January 1, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 188.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1854 Oct. 27	British	Schooner	Deslandes	143	8	John Durrell	G. Deslandes	Rum & tobacco	Coast of Africa
2	" 28	Portuguese	Yacht	Emilia	103	10	A. C. C. Geraldès	Not known	Ditto	Ditto
3	Nov. 20	French	Polacca	Robuste	263	13	— Dubois	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
4	Dec. 2	Dutch	Schooner	Afrikan	156	7	— Klock	Ditto	Ditto	St. George d'Elmina
5	" 13	French	Barque	Camilla	456	14	— Queyar	Ditto	Ditto	Coast of Africa
6	" 17	Hamburg	Schooner	Sylphide	155	11	— Meyer	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto

British Consulate, Bahia, January 1, 1855.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

No. 189.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Bahia, January 1, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the half-yearly return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 189.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending June 30, 1854.				For the half-year ending December 31, 1854.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males	750\$ to 900\$		85 18 9 to 103 2 6		900\$ to 1,000\$		105 0 0 to 116 13 4	
„ Females	700\$ 800\$		80 4 2 91 13 4		850\$ 950\$		99 3 4 110 16 8	
Creole Males	850\$ 950\$		97 7 11 108 17 1		1,000\$ 1,100\$		116 13 4 128 6 8	
„ „ with professions ...	1,000\$ 2,000\$		114 11 8 229 3 4		1,500\$ 2,000\$		175 0 0 233 6 8	
„ Females	750\$ 850\$		85 18 9 97 7 11		900\$ 950\$		105 0 0 110 16 8	

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.**British Consulate, Bahia, January 1, 1855.*

No. 190.

Consul Morgan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Bahia, January 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a list showing the number of slaves exported from this port to Rio de Janeiro during the past year.

It appears to me that the Imperial Government's attention has been called to this subject since the publication of my despatch to your Lordship of the 2nd of January, 1854, inasmuch as the President of this province, Senhor Wanderley, brought forward a motion in the General Legislative Assembly at Rio de Janeiro during its last session to prohibit this exportation.

In a long discussion his Excellency then proved its immoral tendency, and the great injury it inflicted on the northern provinces, by draining them of their population. His motion was not carried, on the plea that it interfered with private property, and with its free disposal, and would, moreover, estrange the commercial relations between the provinces.

The Imperial Government, however, have not entirely overlooked the

matter, as the Imperial Decree No. 1,530, of the 10th of January last, provides in a more stringent manner for the responsibility of merchant masters who carry slaves without passports from one port to another, thus evading the heavy export duty imposed by certain provincial laws against such a drain on their agricultural population.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 190.

List of Slaves exported coastwise from Bahia to Rio de Janeiro, with Passports granted by the Authorities of this City.

1854.	No.
January and February	127
March	50
April	98
May	53
June	27
July	24
August	219
September	166
October	265
November	212
December	151
Total	1,392

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*
British Consulate, Bahia, January 4, 1855.

No. 191.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Morgan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 28, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th of December last, mentioning the arrival at Bahia of the French ship "Camelia," from Havre, a portion of whose cargo was destined for Whydah. You state, that when that vessel was ready to proceed to her destination, the master was required to give security to the amount of the value of the ship, as well as of the cargo in transit, which demand was complied with upon the advice of the French Consular Agent; and you request instructions for your guidance in the event of a similar demand being made by the Brazilian authorities in the case of a British vessel.

I have referred the matter to the proper Law Officer of the Crown, who has stated, that as you do not cite or refer to the particular Brazilian Law or Regulation under which security was required in the case of the "Camelia" and her cargo, he is unable to advise with regard to the course which you ought to pursue, if a British vessel should be similarly situated.

But I have to observe, that the compliance of the French Consular Agent with the demand in question, renders it probable that there was some ground for it in reason or in law. For, if vessels bound to the coast of Africa call at a Brazilian port, and there ship cargo, it does not appear unreasonable for the Brazilian authorities to require security that such cargo shall not be in any manner used to promote slave-trading.

Our own laws, as to all matters connected with slave-trading, and more particularly as to the export of any goods which may be, even in a remote and indirect manner, employed in such Traffic, are very severe and exceptional; and I have to state to you that Her Majesty's Government would be unwilling to appear disposed to resist any measures adopted by Brazil with the *bonâ fide* object of preventing the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pará.*

No. 192.

Consul Vines to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 11.)

My Lord,

Pará, July 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch under date the 2nd of March last, desiring me to add a third column to the half-yearly returns of the prices of slaves, to show what the prices were during the previous half-year.

I have the honour to observe to your Lordship, that for some years past no return has been made of the prices of slaves in the district of this Consulate, there being no slave-market within the province.

Slaves are occasionally sold by private contract, but their prices rarely transpire; and when any of the few small estates worked by slave labour have exchanged owners, the slaves are all invariably included in the sale of the property.

In the prices current of this city, the value of slaves is not quoted, unlike the other commercial ports of this Empire, where, from the larger slave population, they form important and regular articles of commerce.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SAMUEL VINES.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Paraiba*.

No. 193.

Pro-Consul Krausé to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Paraiba, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, my half-yearly return of the price of slaves within this Consular district, together with that of the foregoing half-years.

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

Inclosure in No. 193.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Paraiba, Brazil, from January 1 to June 30, 1854, together with that of the two foregoing half-years, so far as the same can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Pro-Consul at Paraiba.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves during the three half-years.		
	1853. January 1—June 30.	1853. July 1—December 31.	1854. January 1—June 30.
<i>Agricultural.</i>			
Males	{ Rs. 700,000 £ 82 5 10	{ Rs. 700,000 £ 82 5 10	{ Rs. 750,000 £ 84 7 6
Females	{ Rs. 650,000 £ 77 3 9	{ Rs. 650,000 £ 77 3 9	{ Rs. 700,000 £ 78 15 0
<i>Mining.</i>			
Males	} There are none of this class in the Province.		
Females			
<i>Domestic.</i>			
Males	{ Rs. 800,000 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 800,000 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 900,000 £ 101 5 0
Females	{ Rs. 800,000 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 800,000 £ 95 0 0	{ Rs. 850,000 £ 95 12 6
<i>Newly Imported.</i>			
Males	} None have been imported during these eighteen months.		
Females			

(Signed) HENRY KRAUSE, *Pro-Consul*.
British Consulate, Paraiba, June 30, 1854.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pernambuco.*

No. 194.

Acting-Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, April 8, 1854.

I HAVE great satisfaction in informing your Lordship that there has been no renewal in this province of the African Slave Trade during the quarter ended 31st March.

In my despatch of the 16th of January,* I mentioned to your Lordship that there were rumours of an intended landing of slaves in the neighbourhood of the Rio Francisco. Since that time two of Her Majesty's steamers, and two Brazilian sloops of war, have been constantly cruising on the coast without seeing any vessel of a suspicious character. I am therefore induced to conclude, that if the intention of landing slaves in that quarter has ever existed, it has now been abandoned.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

No. 195.

Acting-Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 7.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, July 5, 1854.

I HAVE the satisfaction of informing your Lordship that there has been no renewal of the African Slave Trade during the quarter ended the 30th June.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

No. 196.

Acting-Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 31.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE much satisfaction in informing your Lordship that there has been no renewal, in this district, of the African Slave Trade during the quarter ended this day.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 195.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio Grande do Sul.*

No. 197.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Wodehouse's despatch of the 29th March last, and to thank your Lordship for the copies therein transmitted of the Act 59 Geo. III, cap. 120, respecting the registry of slaves.

I take the liberty of inclosing by this opportunity a communication which I have addressed this day to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, pointing out the steps I propose to take in reference to the above subject, in the event of receiving no contrary instructions from him.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 197.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, May 26, 1854.

LORD WODEHOUSE, with the sanction of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has communicated to me copies of the Act 59 Geo. III, cap. 120, relating to the registry of slaves of certain British Colonies, prior to the abolition of slavery therein.

From the inquiries I have instituted on this subject it appears to me that the passing of an Act for the registration of slaves in any province of Brazil, comes within the attributes of the Provincial Legislature of that Province, and I am convinced that much benefit to the country might result from the adoption of some of the provisions of the British Act; for not only might it prove a convenient source of revenue, and check the purloining and surreptitious sales of slaves, but it would probably stop altogether the Traffic within the country of persons of colour illegally treated as slaves, and whose chances of regaining their liberty are necessarily diminished each time they are transferred to some new reputed owner; and I may add that the adoption of such principles of law would prove a most useful engine in the event of measures being at a future time adopted for the gradual abolition of slavery.

It is my intention to avail myself of an early opportunity to recommend, in a private manner, to the President of this province the application to his district of some of the principles of the Act 59 Geo. III, cap. 120, and to test the feelings of leading persons on the subject; but if any official communication should be desired, I shall apply for your instructions prior to taking any such step.

In the event of my further inquiries leading to the conviction that a law with provisions similar to those of the British Act for the Registration of Slaves might be passed by some of the Provincial Legislatures without opposition from the Central Government, it would probably prove advis-

able that other Consuls in Brazil should have the Act communicated to them; I merely throw out this remark as a preliminary suggestion, but will have the honour of keeping you informed of the success or otherwise which may attend my proceedings upon this subject in this district.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 198.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 22, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information some documents having reference to a reported landing of Africans on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina, where it adjoins this province on the coast.

Your Lordship will perceive from these inclosures that persons of considerable influence in this province are believed to have not only sanctioned, but to possess interests in, this reported flagrant violation of law, as also in the landing of Africans which occurred near the same place in the year 1852.

Inclosure 1 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul.

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1854.

THE Undersigned, the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, &c., has the honour to bring to the knowledge of his Excellency Senhor João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinimbu, President of this province, that he has received information that a large number of Africans were landed on the 11th and 12th instants, for introduction as slaves into this province, at a stream called Iguay, not far from the town of As Torres, near the frontiers.

The landing, it is stated, was effected from a vessel believed to have proceeded from the coast of Africa, the Africans being disembarked from that vessel to a yacht which proceeded from the coast of this province or that of the province of Santa Catharina, and which afterwards landed all the Africans in the neighbourhood of As Torres, when, apparently by pre-concert with the people of the coast, they were immediately distributed in the country.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1854.

A REPORT, with much appearance of truth, has reached me of a landing of a large number of Africans on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina where it borders this province on the coast.

I have the honour to inclose copies of letters on this subject, from which you will derive the details of the information received by me.

I have also communicated information of this report to Her Majesty's Consul at Santa Catharina, and also to the British Vice-Consul at Porto Alegre, and to the officers of the Brazilian Government here.

Inclosure 3 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to Consul Callander.

Sir

Rio Grande do Sul, June 22, 1854.

I HAVE received information of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina where it touches this province on the coast.

The landing is stated to have been effected from a coasting-vessel, which received the negroes from a larger vessel, supposed to have come from the coast of Africa.

The landing of these Africans so close to the frontiers appears to have been planned with the object of avoiding the vigilance of the authorities of this province, by possessing the power to pass the Africans, in case of pursuit, over to the Province of Santa Catharina.

I trust, therefore, you will give me such assistance as lies in your power, in order that, by procuring the liberation of these negroes, or by depriving the projectors of the scheme of the profits they expect from their inhuman speculation, a check may be presented to such attempts in future.

I am sure I need not call your attention to the importance of stopping the vessel which appears to have brought these Africans, if it should enter into any port of your district for provisions or other purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 198.

Consul Vereker to Vice-Consul Aveline.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 20, 1854.

I AM informed that there was effected a landing of a large number of Africans on the 11th and 12th instants, at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina where it adjoins this province, these Africans being landed from a small coasting-vessel which received them from a larger vessel.

I am led to think that it is intended to introduce these Africans as slaves in this province, distributing them at first in the neighbourhood of Torrès and San Antonio da Patrulha.

I have to instruct you to inquire particularly into this case, and to report to me, without delay, any details that may come to your knowledge.

I understand the majority of Africans landed on both these occasions are young, from 9 to 15 years of age.

No. 199.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose memoranda, showing the arrivals and departure of persons by this port during the past six months; this paper being prepared with the view of testing the diminution of slavery in this province during that period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 199.

RETURN showing the diminution of Slavery, by the Arrivals and Departures of Slaves and other persons through the Port of Rio Grande do Sul, during the six-monthly period ended June 30, 1854.

<i>British subjects.</i>						
Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	5
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	54
						49
<i>Free Foreigners (excluding Soldiers).</i>						
Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	514
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	534
						20
<i>Slaves (accompanying their Masters).</i>						
Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	31
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	66
						35
<i>Slaves (for sale).</i>						
Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	14
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	65
						51
Total decrease in slavery by departures of slaves <i>vid</i> this Port						86

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

No. 200.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord, *Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a return, showing the average prices of slaves at this port during the past six months.

I trust the manner in which these prices have been compared with those prevalent in the six-monthly period preceding will meet the views expressed in your Lordship's despatch of the 2nd of March last.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 200.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the six months ending June 30, 1854.

Classes of Slaves.	Average price in six-monthly periods to				Difference in price in last six months.	
	December 31, 1853.		June 30, 1854.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>						
Males	720,800	78 0 0	710,800	76 18 4	..	1 1 8
Females	680,800	73 13 4	675,800	73 2 6	..	0 10 10
<i>Mining.</i>						
	None.					
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males	780,800	84 10 0	795,800	86 2 6	1 12 6	
Females . . .	740,800	80 3 4	740,800	80 3 4		
<i>Newly Imported.</i>						
	None imported within the past six months, as yet known positively, though a report exists of a cargo having been landed on the 11th instant.					

Exchange at 2s. 2d. per milreis.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

No. 201.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordship's consideration the following observations, intended to review the state of slavery and the Slave Trade in this Consular district during the twelve months ending this day.

I have the satisfaction to premise that, according to the information possessed by this Consulate, no attempts to renew the Slave Trade from Africa to this district have occurred during the past twelve months.

Your Lordship will perceive from the half-yearly returns of the prices of slaves, that the prices in this district have varied but little during the past twelve months; nevertheless some slaves have been sold at unprecedented high prices, and the tendency of prices is evidently upwards.

From memoranda which I have taken the liberty to transmit to the Foreign Office, to show the departures and arrivals of slaves by this port, it appears that during the past twelve months the number of slaves that departed exceeded the number of those that arrived by 184; but this number does not include those who may have left for other provinces overland, or who may have escaped from servitude, and necessarily not those who have been granted or who have purchased their liberty. If these causes, which tend to lessen the number of slaves in this district,

are taken into consideration, it will be perceived that the number of slaves have considerably diminished in this district during the past twelve months.

The introduction coastwise of any slaves for sale in this province is a subject calculated to excite suspicion, for not only are the average prices in the northern ports, from which they come, higher than in this district, but on entry here there is an additional tax to pay; besides, these transactions are usually conducted by natives of Portugal: however, in justice to the authorities of this place, it may be observed that this Consulate, in the inquiries instituted with regard to the negroes thus brought from other Brazilian ports, has not hitherto discovered that any of them were persons who could legally claim their liberty.

It must, nevertheless, be acknowledged that the laws of Brazil, as at present carried out, are wholly insufficient to prevent what might be called an illicit internal Traffic in Slaves, I mean, the selling as slaves of persons of colour who are not slaves, even according to the Brazilian laws. To show that such a Traffic does exist, it seems only necessary to refer to the fact that comparatively few of the negroes who have been landed from Africa since the enactment of the Brazilian laws declaring that such persons should be considered free, have since had their liberty recognized: it is also well known that slaves are often stolen from their proprietors in order that they might be sold. It appears evident that if the Brazilian laws were efficient to impede the internal Slave Trade referred to, the preponderant majority of the negroes imported into Brazil since the year 1831, would now have obtained their freedom, and that the sales of slaves by persons who are not their owners, and have no authority from the owners, could not take place, and much less the kidnapping of free persons to be sold into slavery.

The laws now in force, which seem to apply to the above-mentioned cases, are those which impose taxes on the possession or attainment by transfer of a slave, the tax called "*meia sisa*" being the principal. But seemingly no sufficient proof that the person transferred is really a slave is required by those whose duty it is to execute these laws; the presentation of the deeds of transfer, and, in the event of the person sold coming from another port, of a passport, seem to be esteemed a proof sufficient. Such being the case, it will be deemed superfluous to refer to the wide field which so lax a method opens to the detestable practices of slave-dealers, who by the enhanced prices of slaves, are daily the more enticed to engage in such demoralizing and inhuman proceedings as are represented by the illicit internal Slave Trade above mentioned.

It would seem that the surest means of permanently obstructing such transactions might perhaps be found in the enactment and enforcement of a rigid law for the complete and efficacious registration of slaves in Brazil.

It may be incidentally remarked that the efforts of persons of colour, illegally held in slavery, can rarely be relied on as a means whereby they will procure their own freedom, as the apathy of these people is extraordinary, and after being retained in illegal slavery for some years, they seem to abandon all hope of obtaining their freedom. This remark applies, not only to subjects of the Oriental Republic treated as slaves in this province, but with greater force to negroes brought in previous years from Africa.

I may be pardoned for availing myself of this occasion to call your Lordship's attention to a question which appears of importance in connection with the diminution of slavery: namely, to the buying and selling of slaves by the subjects (other than those of Her Majesty) of countries in which slavery does not exist.

With regard to this question, I would observe that, though there might be presented some sort of apology for the introduction of negroes from a savage state to a country where they may learn some of the customs and ideas of civilization, yet for the buying and selling of human beings by foreigners residing in those countries where slavery exists, there appears no sort of excuse. These transactions are generally had recourse

to merely as a measure of economy, because it is found cheaper to purchase a slave than to hire free persons, or even slaves, whilst the iniquity and inhumanity of the proceeding remains in all its repulsiveness, and the principle of not trafficking in human beings remains outraged as fully as it would have been by the importation of negroes from Africa.

I would further observe, that in the most important towns of Brazil, and other countries where slavery exists, there are a large number of foreigners; and if it were once established that none such should buy or sell slaves, the moral effect to be expected from the declaration, and still more from the maintenance of such a principle, would doubtless penetrate to the natives of the country, showing in the most perceptible manner the horror with which any trafficking in human beings is viewed by the most civilized nations of the world.

At present British subjects remain almost alone in their desire not to have dealings in slaves, but though the position thus occupied is most honourable to the British nation, still it cannot be concealed that the object in view, the utter extinction of slavery in all parts of the world, would be sooner attained if other nations were to adopt the philanthropic measures heretofore sanctioned by the British Legislature.

Two methods by which the object mentioned might be advanced present themselves; the first the enactment of laws, in the countries where slavery exists, prohibiting foreigners from buying or selling slaves therein, and such laws might perhaps be popular, as the immediate effect would probably be an augmentation in the hiring of slaves; the second method referred to would consist in the promulgation by foreign nations of views similar to those contained in the British Acts which refer to the purchase or sale of slaves by British subjects resident in foreign countries, such views to control their respective subjects in whatever country residing. The moral effect of either of these measures could not fail of being very powerful and beneficial.

A report of a landing of Africans on the 11th and 12th instant at the frontiers of the Province of Santa Catharina, for introduction into this province, has reached this Consulate; but as the report is not yet fully confirmed, it is not further referred to in this retrospect.

A feeling seems to be gradually growing in this province, that before very many years slavery will cease to exist in this part of Brazil; the mildness of the climate acts not only as an incentive to the natives to turn their thoughts to labour, but also induces immigration from other countries; whilst the facility with which the natives can here undertake labour, and the progressively increasing immigration, gives to those in this district a power to dispense with slave-labour in a greater degree than is possessed by those residing in the warmer latitudes. Thus the departures of slaves from this district to the northern provinces greatly exceed the arrivals from those parts, and as the stopping of the Slave Trade is calculated to augment largely the prices of slaves in the northern provinces, where free labour is rare as compared with this district, and where the want of slave-labour is not likely to be immediately supplied by immigration, it follows that the necessities of the northern provinces will maintain there a higher comparative price for slaves than those of this district will admit of here. It seems, therefore, that it may be concluded that the prices of slaves in these parts of the Empire will be regulated by those in the warmer latitudes, and that, the demand in the latter continuing with higher prices, slaves will gradually be withdrawn from hence to supply that demand, until the limit is reached when the value of the slave in the northern provinces will be so manifestly in excess of the advantages to be gained from his services here, that the exportation, as it were, of the remaining slaves to the intertropical provinces will necessarily result, and practically have the effect of extinguishing slavery in this district.

Meantime no efforts are made by the natives to accelerate an event of such vital importance and interest to them: they seem blind to the fact that it is slavery which scares away their expected immigrants, which checks their growth, which corrupts their manners; and that it is only

necessary for them to root out from among them this baneful evil, in order to reach that position of wealth, progress and enlightenment to which their rich country, their earnest desire to advance, and their many excellent qualities, entitle them to aspire.

No. 202.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 6, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 22nd of June last, reporting that a landing of Africans had been effected on the 11th and 12th of that month, on the frontiers of the coasts of Rio Grande and of St. Catherine's; and I have to express to you my approval of the steps which you took on hearing of that occurrence.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 203.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of June last,* inclosing a return of the prices of slaves at Rio Grande do Sul during the six months ending on that day; and I have to inform you that I approve the manner in which you have shown the comparison between those prices and the prices prevailing during the preceding six months.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 204.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 8, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of June last,† and I have to express to you my approval of the able and interesting report on slavery and the Slave Trade in Rio Grande do Sul contained therein.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 205.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, July 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a note, dated the 30th ultimo, which I received from Senhor João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinimbú, the President of this province, in reply to the note which I had addressed to him on the 20th ultimo, of which I inclosed a copy to your Lordship in my despatch of the 22nd ultimo. I also inclose translations of eight documents transmitted with the President's despatch.

Your Lordship will perceive from these papers, that the President of this province inclines to the belief that the landing of Africans, if effected, was on the frontiers, but within the territory, of the Province of Santa Catharina.

I have also the honour to submit to your Lordship a copy of the note I this day addressed in reply to the President. In that reply, I have alluded to the absence of special instructions, to the police officers guarding the coast, to arrest with a view to punishment those residents in the country who might receive, or in any manner trade in, Africans after their landing, as I believe that this is a duty not sufficiently attended to, and that by the strict punishment of such persons the most powerful means will be found for extinguishing the Slave Trade.

I have to add that I have transmitted to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro translations of the President's despatch of the 30th ultimo and of my reply.

Inclosure 1 in No. 205.

The President of Rio Grande do Sul to Consul Vereker.

*Palace of the Presidency in Porto Alegre,
June 30, 1854.*

(Translation.)

THE official despatch of the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande, dated the 20th instant, was before this Presidency, communicating to me that he received information that a large number of Africans had been disembarked in this province on the 11th and 12th instant, in the district of Torres, in a river called Iguay, this debarkation having been effected by a vessel which arrived from the coast of Africa, which passed over the Africans to a yacht, which landed them there with the previous accord of the inhabitants of the place, amongst whom they were distributed. And this Presidency taking into due consideration the information given by the same Consul, proceeds to give him notice of all the provisions which it has given in relation to this business, communicating to him the information which it has received from those places, and by which the Presidency believes either that such debarkation was not effected, or, if it were, that it was done in a district of the Province of Santa Catharina, outside the control of the jurisdiction of this same Presidency.

I shall, however, begin by assuring the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, that as Brazilian and as Delegate of the Imperial Government, whose orders I perform with the loyalty which I pride myself on possessing, I am especially engaged to give the last blows for the total extinction of the abominable Traffic in Africans; and accordingly as soon as during the past month I received from the Imperial Government a confidential notification, instructing me that a debarkation of Africans on the coasts of this province, near the coast of the Tramandahy river, was being projected, I caused to leave this capital two detachments of police, commanded by two officers of confidence, giving them the instructions appearing from the copy inclosed.

By these instructions the police of the coast was divided into two parts, the one being commanded by Captain Marcelino José de Carmo, charged to overrun it from the bar of the River Tramandahy towards the south to the town of Mostardas; the Presidency, fearing that the traders should have recourse to those places with the intention of crossing the small extension of land which separates the sea from the Lake dos Patos, to accomplish their crime in that direction. The other part was confided to the command of Captain Francisco Antonio de Moraes, he having in his charge the police from the bar of the same River Tramandahy on the northern side to Torres, the limits between this province and that of Santa Catharina; and as the Presidency feared that such a debarkation might also be effected in the territory of that same province, it authorized the same Captain Moraes to penetrate therein in case of justifiable necessity.

Both these detachments left on the 22nd ultimo; and until the 1st instant nothing occurred.

On the 9th I received from Captain Francisco Antonio de Moraes the despatch inclosed dated the 4th, and written from the *Estancia do Meio*, in the which he told me that he had received from the Delegate of Police of the City of Laguna the official despatch communicating to him that a debarkation of 150 Africans had taken place on the days 1st to 3rd of May, in the River *Tramandahy*; in regard to which he requested information. The circumstance of his having already passed by *Tramandahy*, where he did not encounter any thing, the fact of this official despatch being brought by the whole detachment of police which were guarding the coast of the Province of detachment that a packet-boat suspected of being employed in the Traffic, was sailing off and on between the heights of *Santa Martha Santa Catharina* from *Laguna* to *Torres*, and the notice given by the same and *Conventos*, caused Captain Moraes to suspect the sending of that official despatch, and, in consequence, availing himself of the authority which he had, he entered into the territory of the adjoining province.

Under date of the 7th instant, Captain Marcelino officially addressed me from *Cerquinha*, imparting to me his proceedings, and affirming that no debarkation had occurred to the south of *Tramandahy*, and communicating to me that he was informed Captain Moraes had proceeded to *Torres*. On the 9th, the same Captain again wrote to me, imparting that he had received from Captain Moraes a copy of the official letter of the Delegate of Laguna, and then affirming that the notice of this debarkation in *Tramandahy* was false.

Finally on the 23rd I received the last inclosed despatch from Captain Moraes, dated the 18th, and written from the same place, the *Estancia do Meio*, in which he relates the result of his searches in the territory of the frontier province. This Presidency calls the attention of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul to this despatch, for he will see that the suspicion of Captain Moraes was well founded; that the packet-boat, which was sailing off and between *Conventos* and *Santa Martha*, in the Province of *Santa Catharina*, had all the appearance of being a slaver; that according to the information collected it occasionally tried to enter the bar of the River *Araringua* to effect its debarkation, but that on one of those occasions a steamer in pursuit having approached, it made sail and disappeared; and as up to that period it had not returned again, the same Captain agreed to return to the territory of this province.

These are the official informations which this Presidency has received respecting this affair, which, as a proof of the sincere obligation in which it is to persecute the criminal slave-traders, it makes a duty to lay in the presence of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, pledging to him yet more, that on this occasion it is going to expedite an express to Captain Moraes ordering him that he should proceed to take up the position at the bar of the River *Araringua* in the Province of *Santa Catharina*, until the respective President, to whom it will give an account of all, can order him to be relieved by a force of that same province; the same Consul being also able to indulge in the certainty that if, by the new information which the Presidency is proceeding to solicit, it should be discovered that any of the agents of the Government, in the performance of this commission, has not fulfilled his duty, he will be duly punished.

This Presidency finally offers to the consideration of the Honourable H. Pendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, a copy of the confidential despatch which, by this vessel, it has received from the President of the Province of *Santa Catharina*, regarding this same subject, and begging him that he will have the goodness to continue to supply it with all the information which he may be able to collect, and avails, &c.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 205.

General Order.

(Translation.)

Porto Alegre, May 22, 1854.

THIS Presidency having motives to suppose that some contraband traders in Africans attempt means to pursue this criminal and abominable Traffic, without remembering that, transgressing the laws of the country, they compromise the national dignity, and it being in the duty of this same Presidency to impede, by all the means in its power, that this crime should come to be realized within the territory of this Province, it has resolved to order Captain Marcelino José do Carmo, that, having under his command a detachment of the corps of police, which will be given to him, he should march without delay to the coast of Tramandahy, to form the police guard of those parts, and principally to capture and pursue any traders in Africans who perchance pretend to effect there any debarkation.

On this same occasion, and for the performance of an identical commission, the Presidency has named the Captain of the National Guards, Francisco Antonio de Moraes. The police of the coast from the north of the bar of the River Tramandahy, up to Torres and Mampitaba, being in charge of the latter; and in that of the former, the south of the said bar of Tramandahy, up to Mostardas. Both these officers will help each other reciprocally in the performance of this important commission, as much in the means of guarding the coast to discover suspected vessels which might attempt the land, as in the arrest of the Africans and pursuit of their introducers. Each of these ought repeatedly to exchange communications, that they may be aware of all occurrences, in the certainty that any recompense to which they may have claim by the good performance of this commission, will be divided between them equally, and without other difference than the excess of zeal which each one may show.

In case any debarkation should be realized, the first duty of each of those entrusted with the police will be to communicate with the other, and immediately with this Presidency, pointing out the place of debarkation, and the direction that the contraband traders took; and the one of the two to whom this communication may be directed, ought to march to help the other, both working in common accord, with the principal object of apprehending the Africans, and above all to seize their introducers, whatever may be their position, causing them with all security to proceed to this capital.

Any of the officers charged with this duty, who may require the aid of the National Guard or of the people, will request it in the name and by the order of this Presidency, presenting the inclosed official order; and in the event of its being advisable to enter into an extern province in the pursuit of the introducers of Africans, they can do it, giving notice to the authorities in the place whereby they may pass, of the object for which they go, requesting aid, and begging the quick transmission of the inclosed despatch to the Most Excellent President of the Province of Santa Catharina. To the soldiers who may be employed in this duty, it will be ordered to make an allowance of 300 reis ($7\frac{1}{2}d.$) daily, if their maintenance cannot be obtained for less, according to the accounts which the respective commanders may present. The President of the Province recommends to the officers charged with this service the most faithful execution of the present order.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 3 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police at Torres to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Estancia do Meio, June 1, 1854.

HAVING overrun the coast, in accordance with your Excellency's order, and even sending to the other Province to Conventos, and nothing new having occurred, I have decided to occupy the centre of the coast, leaving a detachment in the town of Torres and another in Tramandahy, judging this guard thus more secure, conformably as your Excellency has deigned to intrust me.

This is all I have to bring to your Excellency's knowledge.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO ANTONIO DE MORAES.

Inclosure 4 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police at Torres to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Encampment near the Estancia do Meio,
June 4, 1854.*

HAVING received a despatch from the Delegate of Police of the city of Laguna, Province of Santa Catharina, in which he warns me that there was a debarkation of 150 Africans on the 1st to the 3rd of May, in the River Tramandahy; as I have overrun this coast from the same Tramandahy up to Mampitaba, I could not know a place where they could have disembarked. In consequence of the adjoined despatch which your Excellency will see, and from the only detachment which existed from the city of Laguna to the River Mampitaba having come to bring the same despatch, I suspected this withdrawing of forces, and from the same commander of the said detachment telling me that a packet-boat, which every one said were Africans whom they wished to disembark, was proceeding from Santa Martha to Conventos, I resolved to pass to the same Province with 11 soldiers, to take cognizance of these notifications, leaving in the same Tramandahy a corporal and a soldier, and another detachment of 3 soldiers in the centre of the coast; on this same occasion I wrote officially to Captain Marcelino José do Carmo to approach nearer to Tramandahy, until I should return to my post.

This is all I have to bring to your Excellency's knowledge.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCISCO ANTONIO DE MORAES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 205.

The Delegate of Police at Laguna to the Commandant of Police at Torres.

(Translation.)

Sir,

*Delegacy of Police of the City of Laguna,
May 31, 1854.*

THIS Delegacy being informed that, on the 1st to the 3rd instant, a debarkation of 150 Africans was effected on the River Tramandahy, it is right that you should inform me with all the circumstances as minutely as possible, in such regard, declaring what was the name, the quality, and nation of the ship, of the loader, the captain, and crew, from whence it proceeded, where it was prepared, on whose account the negotiation was made, who are those involved therein, who assisted the debarkation, whither proceeded the Africans, by whom were they distributed; as also all the other circumstances which you can collect, briefly enlightening me

on the subject; and as it is possible that some of these Africans may have departed for this province, would you also enlighten me in order that it may be discovered where they are, that they may be apprehended in whatever place they may be, even though they should already have been sold. I hope that you may inform me, circumstantially, in order that I with greater certainty may enlighten the Government of this province.

(Signed)

JOSE ANTONIO FERNANDES VIANNA.

Inclosure 6 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police Do Carmo to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Cerquinha, June 7, 1854.

I IMPART to your Excellency that on the 26th of the last month, I arrived at the house of Fermiano José Luiz Ozorio, distant one league from the bar of the River Tramandahy, and as the weather, in consequence of the great rain which there was, did not give an opportunity to proceed, I arranged to make some inquiries from persons of the same house relating to the service, according to the instructions and orders which were entrusted to me by your Excellency.

On the 29th I betook myself with the detachment to the bar of the said river, and passing one league and a half to the other side of the same, to the house of Manoel Alves, near the shore, trying to discover whether Captain Moraes was already occupying that point, and on the 31st I was able to reach the town of Serra with two soldiers of my command, who returned informing me that the same Captain had proceeded to the neighbourhood of Torres.

On the 1st I again passed the same bar betaking myself to Silveira, this being a place beyond which the bad weather did not allow me to advance. On the 3rd I departed for Cerquinha, distant two leagues, and near the coast, from which I have not neglected to adopt all precautionary measures to the end of fulfilling properly the commission with which I am entrusted.

It rests with me to submit to your Excellency that from this place to Mostardas there are twenty-one leagues, and that I find myself deprived of horses, in consequence of the denial which some residents of this coast make, telling me that they are without horses for the use of their establishments, and it is on this account that I have made small stoppages, and even in consequence of the bad state of the roads. At this date I follow for Portirinha, at two and a half leagues distance, and shall follow with some days' delay up to the height of Mostardas; and as soon as I can obtain an improvement in the animals, I shall return to remain in Guintão, which I judge the centre, in order that the necessary watches should be placed to discover any indication there may be of a debarkation by the said traders.

It also rests with me to expose to your Excellency that some horses for sale have appeared at the price of 6 or 7 dollars, and as I am not fortified with an order for such an object this is the motive why I have not purchased them; it being of much urgency, in order each day to exercise frequent vigilance over the shore, since the place where there are resources of water and pasture is always distant from the shore from one to two leagues, and without having a change of horses it remains more difficult to perform well the service.

This is all I have to bring to your Excellency's knowledge; also, indeed, at this date Senhor _____, who is here, and one soldier, proceed to receive the arrears of the pay of the said soldiers.

(Signed)

MARCELINO JOSE DO CARMO.

Inclosure 7 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police Do Carmo to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)
Most Excellent Sir,

*Near the Bar of Tramandahy,
June 9, 1854.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency's hands the inclosed copy of the despatch directed to me by the Captain charged with the commission from Torres, at the other side of Tramandahy; and as it appeared from the said despatches that 150 Africans had already disembarked, I planned immediately to countermarch for the said River Tramandahy, and minutely to make the necessary investigations, in regard to the inhabitants of the place; and as it was not possible for me to discover such a debarkation, and from there not being any indications with regard to such an object, I left two soldiers of confidence, to await with all vigilance, and to impart to me any movement of vessels upon this point, and at this date I return to overrun the coast up to the point which was marked out to me.

This is all I have to communicate to your Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) MARCELINO JOSE DO CARMO.

Inclosure 8 in No. 205.

The Commandant of Police at Torres to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)
Most Excellent Sir,

*Encampment near Estancia do Meio,
June 18, 1854.*

HAVING passed the frontiers of the Province, as I communicated to your Excellency in my official despatch dated the 4th instant, and having inquired respecting the packet-boat (palhabote) which was between Conventos and Santa Martha, the residents informed me it was engaged in the Slave Trade, and the pilot of that bar told me that the said vessel had on various occasions tried to enter within the bar, and a steamer in pursuit having approached the said vessel on one of those days, it made sail and disappeared, and I judge that the point of debarkation is between the said hills, because there is no force of any kind, because the bar of Araringua is very free from impediments; also from the pilot telling me that there are always six palms of water when it is dry, and that the said vessel draws less water; and that the said river is navigable up to the Hill dos Auzentes, district of Vaccaria, and from meeting with a yacht within the said river, and from its being customary that more vessels of commerce should enter, and from there being in Santa Martha an anchorage where the sea remains always calm. I agreed to withdraw, because I did not know the success of the said steamer. This is what your Excellency has ordered in this respect.

(Signed) FRANCISCO ANTONIO DE MORAES.

Inclosure 9 in No. 205.

The President of St. Catherine's to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)
Most Excellent Sir,

*Government Palace, Santa Catharina,
June 21, 1854.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge as received your Excellency's confidential despatch of the 22nd May last, communicating to me your having had a denouncement that a vessel was attempting to effect a landing of Africans on the coast where are the limits of these two Provinces, and that in order to impede it, and to apprehend the Africans, and to

pursue the traffickers in case they should effect the object, you had charged the Captain of the National Guard, Francisco Antonio de Moraes, authorising him to pursue them even into this Province, communicating with the authorities of this Province, and requiring from them the necessary aids. Having expedited similar orders to the authorities of Laguna, I am informed that, in common accord with the said Captain, they employ themselves in repressing the Traffic in Africans, and in giving no quarter to the traders, whom on every account we ought to persecute.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 10 in No. 205.

Consul Vereker to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

Sir,

Rio Grande do Sul, July 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th ultimo, with the documents therein inclosed, and to thank your Excellency for the frankness with which you have communicated with me on the subject to which that despatch refers.

I am sure the Government of Her Majesty the Queen will learn with satisfaction of the zeal and energy with which your Excellency is determined to check any attempts to renew the Slave Trade in this Province.

I avail myself of the opportunity to express my full confidence in the sincerity with which your Excellency is prepared to act in this matter.

The clear instructions which the Presidency has issued to the police authorities charged with watching the coast, if carried out with efficiency, cannot fail on this occasion to have a very useful result. Your Excellency will allow me to call your attention to an omission, inadvertent, perhaps, but nevertheless of great importance; I allude to the absence of special directions to arrest, with a view to punishment, any residents of the coast who may receive or purchase any Africans illegally landed; for it is by punishing those residents in the country who purchase, receive, conceal, or in any manner trade in Africans after landing, that the rightful liberty of these unfortunates will be secured, and the fatal blow given to these wicked and detestable speculations in Africans which retard the progress of this Empire, and are specially injurious to the best interests of this Province.

Your Excellency may rest assured that I shall communicate to the Presidency any important and authentic information that may reach me of the landing of Africans, projected or effected.

From a consideration of your Excellency's despatch of the 30th ultimo and its inclosures, I am led to believe that the river called in my despatch of the 20th of that month the Iguay, is the same as that alluded to by your Excellency as the Araringua, and though out of the bounds of this Province, yet there can be no doubt that any Africans landed there were debarked so near to the frontiers of this Province that they might be introduced here; thus a double duty rests on the authorities of both provinces that they should frustrate the success of this attempt of reviving the Slave Trade, an attempt which has, I am inclined to believe, been long since planned, and which, if successful on this occasion, will necessarily lead to further speculations of the same criminal kind.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER.

No. 206.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 1, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of July, inclosing copies of further correspondence which had passed between the President of the Province of Rio Grande do Sul and yourself, respecting the reported landing of a cargo of slaves on the frontiers of Santa Catharina, on the 11th and 12th of June last, and I have to inform you that I approve of the note which you addressed to the President on the 21st of July.

With reference to this alleged landing of slaves, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, inclosing a translation of a note addressed to him on the 12th of August by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which Senhor de Abreo states that the report of such landing is entirely without foundation; and I have to desire that you will ascertain and report to me whether you were in reality misinformed on this point or not.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 207.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon. —(Received October 12.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the translation of a further note I received from the President of this province, in reference to the reported landing of Africans in the Province of Santa Catharina, near the frontiers of this province; and also translations of the documents transmitted with the President's note, consisting of two despatches from the President of Santa Catharina, and of one from the Chief of Police of that province.

In these documents, it is attempted to prove that the alleged landing of Africans was not effected; but this conclusion is drawn from, it appears to me, very insufficient grounds: the reasons adduced are at least not of that force to induce me to disbelieve the statements I have received from several trustworthy individuals, who affirm that a landing was successfully accomplished, and whose opinion in this respect seems shared by very many of the inhabitants of the coast from this port to the Araringuá.

I have the honour also to inclose a copy of the despatch I address on this subject to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro; and to state that I have communicated to Her Majesty's Consul at Santa Catharina the explanation given by the President of that province, of the conduct of the Delegate of Laguna.

Finally, I submit to your Lordship a copy of the reply which I address this day to the President of this province. Having regard to the fact that very few of the Africans landed at Tramandahy in the year 1852 have been discovered by the authorities, I cannot hope that the various correspondence which has taken place relative to the report which reached this Consulate of a landing at the Araringuá (in a far more difficult country) will lead to the release of any negroes who may have been disembarked; but I trust, nevertheless, it will not be without useful results, specially in urging the authorities of this and the adjoining province to renewed energy, and to a more combined system of action.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

* No. 141.

CLASS B.

Inclosure 1 in No. 207.

*The President of Rio Grande do Sul to Consul Vereker.**Palace of the Presidency, Porto Alegre,
August 1, 1854.*

(Translation.)

THIS Presidency, with the greatest satisfaction, transmits to the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande, the inclosed copies of correspondence which it has received from the President of the Province of Santa Catharina, and by it the same Consul will know that the information he had, and which he imparted to the Presidency in his despatch of June last, was not correctly true relative to a supposed debarkation of Africans on the coasts of Tramandahy or Araringua, Province of Santa Catharina, on the 11th and 12th of the same month.

The inspection made on the coast of that province by the very worthy Chief of Police, whose report accompanies the despatch of the Presidency, and all the communications which have come to the knowledge of this Presidency, whether in private ways or by the official correspondence of police and military authorities, charged with the guard and fiscal regulations of the coast of this and the neighbouring province, accord in affirming that such a debarkation did not take place, and neither was it possible it should, by means of the precautions which, by sea and land, were taken by the Delegates of the Imperial Government.

The President reiterates, &c.

(Signed) JOAO LUIS VIEIRA CAUSAUSAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 207.

The President of St. Catherine's to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Government House, Santa Catharina,
July 11, 1854.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge as received your Excellency's despatch of the 30th June last, accompanying copies of the correspondence of the agents charged by your Excellency to repress the Traffic in Africans on the coast where are divided these two provinces, and of the correspondence between your Excellency and Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Rio Grande.

Well aware of the contents of all, it rests with me to make your Excellency, for your information, see what has passed from the beginning of May, in which the denouncement of the intended debarkation on the coast above referred to reached me from the Imperial Government.

As it was my duty, I reiterated on the 5th of said May to the Delegate of Laguna the orders regarding the repression of the Traffic, directing him to inform me if there were any intentions or indications of the attempt to disembark which it was said was projected between Santa Martha and Tramandahy.

On the 27th May a person of this capital presented himself before me, and told me that a person, come from Laguna, and who had already departed, declared to him in conversation that an individual who had arrived from Laguna on the night of the 23rd, declared in a house that he had arrived at the Tramandahy in a newly-constructed packet-boat, under an American flag, and on the 1st to the 3rd of May disembarked in the pinnace of the packet-boat 150 Africans; that he had ordered the packet-boat to Santos, whither he intended to proceed, the pinnace remaining abandoned on the shore in consequence of the sea having commenced to grow rough; that he delayed in the neighbourhood of Tramandahy until the 22nd of the said month, as he had to conclude the business of this debarkation, and that of 1852 (at the end of March or beginning of April) since he was the same who had effected it.

Although this appeared to me an invention, as it was sufficiently difficult to debark Africans in a small pinnace from the packet-boat on a coast almost always rough, even in time of calm, and, from many boat-loads being necessary, and from its not being possible that a contraband trader who had already disposed of all the Africans should denounce himself, and should even declare the destination of the ship; nevertheless, I officially addressed the Delegate of Laguna on the same day (27th May), and it was by virtue of this my despatch that the Delegate addressed that of the 30th of the same month to the Commandant of the district of Torres.

The then sixth substitute of the Delegate, José Antonio Fernandes Vianna, who addressed that despatch, is a man of very narrow intellect, but a person of recognized probity, and incapable of being deficient in truth. He, from the small force which he had at his disposal, could not effect the arrest of the contraband traders, but he would be exact in informing the Presidency of all that came to his knowledge, as he has always done.

Your Excellency should note that, notwithstanding the esteem I have for this Delegate, I caused the Chief of Police to proceed to Laguna on the 7th June, who arrived there on the night of the 8th, and proceeding up to before Camacho, and having recourse to the most minute searches, he did not encounter the slightest indication of the Traffic in Africans, as your Excellency will see from his despatch dated the 13th, adjoined by copy.

The Chief of Police left Laguna on the 18th, convinced that all the reports were unfounded, and that it was impossible that any debarkation had taken place from Torres to Santa Martha which, within three days, would not be public in Laguna.

A part of the detachment which was guarding the coast of the Araringuá arrived in this capital on the 8th, having gone from there at the beginning of this month, and a serjeant of the police, a man who deserves from me sufficient esteem, affirms to me that, up to that date, there was nothing, and that the notice which Her Britannic Majesty's Consul gave your Excellency was wholly without foundation.

The packet-boat of which he speaks of having been seen off the coast cannot be other than the "Camião da Liberdade," which left Rio Grande with beef, cleared for San Francisco, calling at this port, and which was visited by the steam-corvette "Pedro Segundo," and which tacked with a slight north-east wind on the 26th and 28th in front of the coast of Laguna, as was verified by the statement of its course when it entered this port.

The three steamers which, from May to this time, have cruized by the coast, declared that they saw no other.

In the middle of last June I could ascertain that the person who boasted of having effected the debarkation in the *Tramandahy* on the 1st of May, arrived, in effect, at Laguna in the night of the 23rd May, and kept himself, during the entire of the day of the 24th, within the house of Francisco de Souza Machado Cravo, who did not know him, but to whom he brought a letter from a relation of Cravo's (also Cravo), residing in that province (Rio Grande do Sul), who, leaving Laguna on the 25th, arrived here in the night of the 26th, and from hence proceeded, on the 27th, to Rio de Janeiro in the brigantine "Alberto." He said he was called Joaquim Silveira; I suspect, however, that he had changed his name, and that he was Fernando Soares Vianna, from a person who saw him telling me that he was very like the said Fernando.

In view of what is stated I entertain the conviction that no debarkation has been made since that of 1852 on the coast which divides this from the other province, and that all these denunciations, which have been given as well to the Imperial Government as to your Excellency and to me, have no foundation; and that, notwithstanding it rests with us to continue the precautionary measures respecting the Traffic.

As this province has no more than sixty-six soldiers of police, and only fourteen of cavalry, and no force of the 1st Regiment of the Line, it

is not possible for me to cause the detachment ordered by your Excellency to be posted in Araringuá to be relieved, and therefore I ask your Excellency that you deign to permit it to remain there until the Most Excellent Minister of Justice, from whom I requested precautions on the 25th June, should authorize me to make the necessary expenses, or as long as to your Excellency should appear convenient.

I shall not finish this without observing to your Excellency that the Bar of Araringuá is not so accessible as Captain Moraes says; and so much so, that at present there navigates thither only one yacht, there having been lost, even there, two others, which previously navigated to that place.

On this occasion I officially address the Delegate of Laguna to continue in accord with the Commandant of the Forces of that province (Rio Grande do Sul) in the precautionary measures and pursuit of the contraband traders in Africans.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 207.

The Chief of Police to the President of St. Catherine's.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

Laguna, June 13, 1854.

I ARRIVED in this city on the night of the 8th instant; and notwithstanding having made the most minute searches, whether in the course of the voyage or during my stay here, I could collect nothing which confirms the denouncement that a packet-boat was prepared for the Traffic in Africans on the south coast of this province, and of the debarkation being expected in Santa Martha or Tramandahy, at least in combination with, and in the interest of, the inhabitants of the place. The coast of this Santa Martha up to Torres has been constantly guarded, and nothing to lead to suspicion has been encountered.

A force of the Province of Rio Grande forms the police of the coast from Torres to the River Tramandahy; and also there nothing has occurred, as your Excellency will see from the adjoined despatch of the Commandant of that force, the falseness of the notice of a debarkation in that river in the beginning of the past month being accordingly confirmed.

I informed myself, from the Master of the Bar, and from Manoel Marques, contractor for the road from Santa Martha, respecting the fact they stated to Marcelino Rosa, and which he referred to your Excellency, of a yacht which was some days sailing off and on the coast; and they both told me that in effect they had sighted that yacht at some distance on the 26th and 27th, and that on those days a slight breeze from the north-east was blowing, by which I presume it to be the same yacht which the steamer "Pedro Segundo" visited in these parts on the 28th, and which was tacking in expectation of a south wind, to enter that port (Desterro), where in effect it entered some days afterwards; and so much the more do I presume so, because the said master and Manoel Marques told me that they saw a steamer, probably the "Pedro Segundo," pass by the said yacht. I visited the Cape Santa Martha, which is without doubt a fit place, not only because it admits of disembarking, whatever may be the wind; it happening that a point of land which goes out to sea forms two small curves to the north and to the south, as also from having a road which proceeds to the mountains passing by Tubarão, but reflecting that that cape is distant scarcely two leagues from this city, and that it is in the course of a frequented road; that therefore no preparation can be made without its being quickly known

and communicated, and that the passage of the Africans can be immediately stopped, it is recognized that the disembarking can only be made with success, there being connivance on the part of the authorities; now there is not motive for not confiding in them.

Besides the Cape of Santa Martha, there exists only one point accessible for small boats with great risk, which is the old Bar of the Araringuá, near to which departs a road to the mountains; but this bar, which is always dangerous, becomes some days entirely impracticable. As, however, the temerity of the traders causes them to face all dangers, and that the secret of their schemes is not always discovered by the zeal and diligence of the police, I judge it convenient to exercise the most active vigilance; and for this purpose I have determined to establish detachments on the height of Santa Martha, from whence is seen the coast as far as the sight reaches, and on the Bar of the Araringuá, distant from that Cape ten leagues, and twelve from Torres, ordering the guards to watch the shores, and to communicate immediately any proof or suspicion to the authorities of the city, and to the Commandant of the force of Torres, who is in intelligence with the same, and in the disposition to assist in any point which may be necessary, and to help the police of the coast of this province, having already as the effect of this combination caused the guard to proceed up to Araringuá. In consideration of these arrangements, it appears to me that it will be difficult that, in the event of there being a landing, the criminal traders should succeed in their attempts.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE CAETANO DE ANDRADE PINTO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 207.

The President of St. Catherine's to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Palace of the Presidency, Santa Catharina,
July 18, 1854.*

ON the 8th and 9th a yacht, which proved to be the "Cysne," which entered here on the 15th, having left Rio Grande with beef at the end of June last, proceeded tacking on the coast of Santa Martha, and rather more to the south, the which I communicate to your Excellency for your information. The Delegate of Police of Laguna, officially writing to me under date of the 13th, states that he is not informed of anything respecting the Traffic in Africans having occurred up to that date.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 207.

Consul Vereker to Mr. Howard.

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, August 14, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of further correspondence with the Presidency of this Province regarding the reported landing of Africans at the Araringuá.

The despatch of the President of Santa Catharina, dated 11th July, it will be perceived, contains the assertion that the information regarding the projected or effected landing of Africans in the neighbourhood of Araringuá, which reached the Imperial Government and this Consulate, as well as the Presidencies of these adjoining provinces, are all without

foundation, and this assertion is based upon the despatch of the Chief of Police, a copy of which is inclosed, and upon the verbal statement of a policeman.

The despatch referred to of the Chief of Police, is dated from Laguna on the 13th June; it therefore can have no weight whatever in an inquiry as to whether a landing of Africans did not take place at about fifty miles distance from Laguna on the 12th June.

The statement of the policeman seems of no greater value, as he appears to belong to the very same force whose commander (Captain Moraes declares) stated that "a packet-boat, which every one said was a trader with Africans whom they wished to disembark, was sailing between Santa Martha and Conventos," and who nevertheless under such circumstances thought it consistent with his duty to leave his post at the expected point of debarkation, with all the force under his command, and proceed to this province.

I may add, that the vigilance of the authorities in rendering certain the seizure of any Africans who might be landed, appears asserted rather unfortunately in conjunction with the reference to the landing in 1852; for I am informed, that out of about 300 landed on that occasion, the authorities have only been able to discover 23.

I have to ask your indulgence for my not being more precise in the information I have conveyed on this matter. The reported place of landing is not only out of my jurisdiction, but about 200 miles from this city, in a country thinly peopled, woody, and mountainous, which has rarely any communications with this port. In addition to the first information which I conveyed, and which has since been confirmed by the various documents I received from the Presidency in most particulars, excepting the actual landing of the negroes, I have heard from several other quarters that a landing did take place in the Araringuá (sometimes called Irgua or Iguay), and the number is stated to have been nearly 100, but it appears to me that this is not positively known.

I would also call your attention to the suspicious proceedings of Joaquim Silveira, otherwise Fernando Soares Vianna, as stated in Senhor Coutinho's despatch.

In conclusion, I may observe that the packet-boat to which my informants referred as a slaver which landed her cargo in the second week of June, could not have been the yacht "Camião da Liberdade," which left this port on the 17th May, passed Laguna on the 28th May, and probably reached Desterro at the end of that month; much less could it have been the yacht "Cysne," which left this port on the 27th June, and arrived at Desterro on the 15th July.

Inclosure 6 in No. 207.

Consul Vereker to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

Rio Grande do Sul, August 14, 1854.

THE Undersigned, the Honourable Henry Prendergast Vereker, Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the confidential despatch of his Excellency Senhor João Luis Vieira Causausão de Sinimbú, dated the 1st instant, and of the documents therein inclosed, regarding the reported landing of Africans at Araringuá.

The Undersigned regrets the information conveyed to him does not allow him to share in the opinion expressed by the President of Santa Catharina, that the denunciations on this subject which have reached his Excellency, as well as the Imperial Government, and the Presidency and British Consulate in this Province, are all without foundation; but, recognizing the active diligence exercised by the Presidency of this

Province, he will limit himself at present to thanking his Excellency the President for the information conveyed to this Consulate, assuring him that should any positive elucidation of the question reach this Consulate, the Undersigned will without delay impart it to his Excellency.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER.

No. 208.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Rio Grande do Sul, November 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 1st ultimo, in which your Lordship is pleased to communicate to me your approval of the note I addressed to the President of this province on the 21st July last, respecting a landing of negroes near the frontiers of this province.

I have also received the inclosures in that despatch.

My despatch of the 14th August last, with its inclosures, will, I trust, have anticipated the wishes of your Lordship to obtain further information respecting this alleged landing of negroes, and I regret to have now to state that every inquiry since that date has served to confirm the conviction that the information which I conveyed to the President of the province on the 20th June, was substantially correct.

With reference to Senhor Limpo de Abreo's remark in his note to Mr. H. F. Howard of the 12th August last, in regard to the name of the river selected as a place of debarkation, I need only observe that the position of that river was so far explained in the despatches of this Consulate as to render its identity unmistakeable.

No. 209.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a return, showing the average prices of slaves in this province during the past six months.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 209.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the six months ending December 31, 1854.

Classes of Slaves.	Average prices in six-monthly periods ending				Increase in last six months.	Decrease in last six months.
	June 30, 1854.		December 31, 1854.			
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>						
Males	710,800	76 18 4	700,800	75 16 8	..	1 1 8
Females	675,800	73 2 6	660,800	71 10 0	..	1 12 6
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males	795,800	86 2 6	800,800	86 13 4	0 10 10	
Females	740,800	80 3 4	740,800	80 3 4		
<i>Mining.</i>						
	None.					
<i>Newly Imported.</i>						
Males . . . . .	..	..	450,800	48 15 0		
Females . . . . .	..	..	425,800	46 0 10		

Exchange at 2s. 2d. per milreis.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul*.
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1854.

No. 210.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose memoranda, showing the changes in the slave population of this province by the arrivals and departures through this port.

It appears by this list that, during the past six months, the number of free persons who have entered this province through this port have exceeded those who have departed by 613, whilst, on the other hand, the slaves who have left have exceeded in number those who have entered by 86.

From the best information I can collect, it does not appear that the Bozal negroes introduced in this province since June last have amounted to 80; there consequently appears to have been a diminution in the number of persons treated as slaves in this province.

As the returns, similar to the inclosed, have been continued so far as to show that a regular diminution in the number of slaves in this province is taking place, I do not purpose, unless I should receive contrary instructions, to trouble your Lordship with more of these returns, limiting myself to entering in the annual reports on slavery such useful information as may be obtained.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 210.

RETURN showing the diminution of Slavery by the Arrivals and Departures of Slaves and other persons through the Port of Rio Grande do Sul, during the six-monthly period ending December 31, 1854.

British Subjects.

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	5
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	42
Decrease of British subjects in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port .						37

Free Foreigners (excluding Soldiers).

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	1,097
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	447
Increase of free Foreigners in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port .						650

Slaves accompanying their Masters.

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	25
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	51
Decrease of these slaves in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port ..						26

Slaves for Sale.

Arrived	..	..	..	..	..	9
Departed	..	..	..	..	..	69
Decrease of these slaves in Province <i>viâ</i> this Port ..						60

Total decrease in slavery by departure of slaves <i>viâ</i> this Port ..						86
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(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, Consul.
British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, December 30, 1854.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Rio de Janeiro.*

No. 211.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, April 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, inclosed, a return of the vessels reported to have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the past quarter, and also a list of the sailings for Africa during the same period.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 211.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 January 17	Schooner	Lice	M. Gonçalves	Portuguese	105	9	Loanda	Days. 32	Sundries.
February 7	Ship	Banshee	T. T. Wingat	American	490	14	Cape Palmas	35	Ballast.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 211.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 March 5	Schooner	Lice	M. Gonçalves	Portuguese	105	9	Benguella and Loanda	Sundries

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 212.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1854.

IN accordance with the instructions contained in Viscount Palmerston's circular despatch of the 4th of October, 1850, I have the honour to transmit herewith a return, showing the prices of slaves in this province during the last half-year.

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

Inclosure in No. 212.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, during the half-year ending June 30, 1854, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves.				Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.				Remarks.	
	In currency.		In sterling.							
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
<i>Agricultural.</i>										
Males	950\$	to 1,000\$	106 17 6	to 112 10 0	105 0 0	to 116 13 4			Very little alteration in the prices since last return.	
Females	800\$	900	90 0 0	101 5 0	93 6 8	105 0 0				
<i>Mining.</i>										
Males	} About the same as Agricultural.									
Females										
<i>Domestic.</i>										
Males	1,000\$	1,400\$	112 10 0	157 10 0	116 13 4	163 6 8				
Females	1,000\$	1,400\$	112 10 0	157 10 0	116 13 4	163 6 8				
<i>Newly Imported.</i>										
Males	} None lately imported.									
Females										

The exchange at which the above calculations are made is 2s. 3d. per milreis.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.
Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1854.

No. 213.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, during the past quarter, no arrivals are reported from the coast of Africa, and that no vessels have sailed from this port for Africa during the same period.

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

No. 214.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 15.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, October 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that, during the last quarter, no vessels are reported as having arrived from the coast of Africa, and that no vessels cleared from this port for Africa during the same period.

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

No. 215.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a return of the vessels that are reported to have arrived at this port from the coast of Africa during the last quarter, and also a list of the departures for Africa during the same period.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 215.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 December 6	Brig	Julia	G. P. da Silva ..	Portuguese.. ..	149	11	Angola	Days. 31	Wax and oil.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 215.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending December 31, 1854.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported nature of cargo.
1854 October 5	Brig	Sofia	A. de S. Rosa ..	Portuguese.. ..	173	11	Benguela and Loanda ..	Sundries

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul.*

No. 216.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1855.

IN accordance with the instructions contained in Viscount Palmerston's circular, dated October 4, 1850, I have the honour to transmit herewith a return, showing the prices of slaves in this province during the last six months.

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

Inclosure in No. 216.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro during the half-year ending December 31, 1854, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Price of Slaves.				Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.			
	In Currency.		In Sterling.					
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>								
Males	1,000\$ to 1,200\$		116 13 4	to 140 0 0	106 17 6	to 112 10 0		
Females	800\$	1,000\$	93 6 8	116 13 4	90 0 0	101 5 0		
<i>Mining.</i>								
Males	} About the same as Agricultural.							
Females								
<i>Domestic.</i>								
Males	1,000\$	1,500\$	116 13 4	175 0 0	112 10 0	157 10 0		
Females	1,000\$	1,400\$	116 13 4	163 6 8	112 10 0	157 10 0		
<i>Newly Imported.</i>								
Males	} None imported during the last six months.							
Females								

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul.*
Rio de Janeiro, January 4, 1855.

No. 217.

Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that, as far as I have been able to ascertain, no slaves were landed in this province direct from the coast of Africa during the past year.

I inclose a return, showing the quantity and value of produce exported during the year 1854, by which your Lordship will perceive that, while coffee, the principal article of export, has considerably increased, the other exports have diminished.

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

Inclosure in No. 217.

STATEMENT of the Amount and Value of Exports of the staple productions of Rio de Janeiro, the result of Slave Labour during the year 1854.

Description of Produce.	Quantity.	Sterling value, including Shipping Charges and Duties.			Total.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coffee	1,986,059 bags	5,200,000	0	0			
Sugar	6,128 cases	74,000	0	0			
Rosewood.. .. .	32,544 planks	84,000	0	0	5,358,000	0	0
The value of other articles of produce, such as Hides, Horns, Rice, Tapioca, Rum, Tobacco, Ipecacuanha, &c., exported during 1854, may be estimated at about					300,000	0	0
Total value of produce shipped during 1854					5,658,000	0	0

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD,
Consul.

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*St. Catherine's*.

No. 218.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, March 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that no slaves have been imported into this province during the quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

No. 219.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 14.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, July 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that no slaves have been introduced into this province during the quarter ended the 30th of June.

On account of information given out in Rio Janeiro, that a landing of slaves would be attempted to the south of this island, that part of the coast has been well watched by Her Majesty's and the Brazilian cruisers. No landing having been tried, or any suspicious vessels seen, it is the general opinion that the information is incorrect and given out for the purpose of misleading the cruisers.

On the 15th ultimo, arrived from Monte Video a Spanish polacca brig, the "*Antilla*," of about 140 tons, Eleonor Millet, master and owner, with a crew of ten men besides, seeking freight. One thousand dollars were offered to charter her to Monte Video; this was refused, though I am told it was a good offer, the master preferring to clear out for Maranham in ballast. The mate of this vessel having been recognized as one of the crew of the "*Catão*," condemned in July 1851 by the Brazilian Government, and as one of the pretended passengers of the "*Tentadora*," detained here by the Brazilian Government in April 1852, the suspicions of the authorities were excited as to the character of the "*Antilla*." She was accordingly searched twice, but nothing indicative of slave-trading purposes was found on board; she is a sharp-built vessel, and is said to sail well; and when here the hull was painted all black. The master is reported to have a considerable amount of money on board. She was dispatched by the Custom-house on the 17th ultimo, but did not sail for some days afterwards, being detained for search, and owing to foul winds.

It is thought that this vessel may be intended for the Cuban Slave Trade; she sailed for Maranham by way of Bahia and Pernambuco. I have written to Her Majesty's Minister at Rio Janeiro respecting her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

No. 220.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, August 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that on the 23rd ultimo, I received information from Mr. Consul Vereker of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of the Province of Rio Grande, where it touches this province on the coast.

I now beg to lay before your Lordship copies of correspondence which has taken place in consequence, and by which your Lordship will perceive that this reported landing of Africans is without foundation, and up to this date nothing further has transpired to corroborate the report of any landing having been effected.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

P.S.—*August 10.* I have just heard from Her Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande. He states he has no sufficient reason to believe that the landing of Africans did not really take place; but he still hopes to be able to obtain evidence of such a conclusive kind as to silence all expressions of doubt.

R. C.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 220.
Consul Callander to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 20th instant, respecting the Spanish brig "*Antilla*," the Brazilian vessel said to have fitted out at Garopas for Slave Trade, and expected to land a cargo of Africans near the southern frontier of this province on the coast, and Mr. Consul Vereker's report of the disembarkation of Africans near Torres.

I beg to inclose herewith copies of correspondence between Mr. Consul Vereker, the President of this province, and myself, relative to a reported landing of negroes at Iguay, near the southern frontier of this province.

I had not even heard a rumour of this reported landing, though the President seems to have been informed of it by the President of Rio Grande on the 30th ultimo.

In the President's letter to me of yesterday he represents the reports in circulation as being entirely without foundation, and even disseminated by worthless persons for their own amusement.

Latterly rumours have obtained that vessels have been seen hovering on the coast in a suspicious manner, but on investigation they turned out to be hiate and other small craft beating against foul winds to enable them to reach their destinations.

It was also said lately that about ten new negroes had been seen passing through the streets of this city at night, but the statement in like manner was found to be devoid of truth.

I had a long conversation with the Chief of Police here yesterday, who states that he has investigated the reports which have reached him respecting attempts at renewal of Slave Trade in this province, and in every case he has found them devoid of truth.

Respecting the Brazilian vessel said to have fitted out at Garopas for the Slave Trade, he thinks such was not the case, as he was at Garopas probably about the time this vessel is said to have fitted out, and he neither saw nor heard anything about her.

I understand some suspicion is attached to a hiate called the "*Vencedor*" or "*Invencivel Catharinense*," sold here to an individual named Martins, and intended for the coasting trade between Pernambuco and

Assú. She left here in ballast about four months ago, I suppose, and I heard had gone to St. Matheus to load farinha. A few days ago a person who had just arrived from Rio told me it was reported there that this hiate has been taken by a British cruizer on the coast of Africa.

I believe the two Brazilian steamers stationed here are about to return to Rio, leaving a brigantine on the station.

At Torres I am told there is a force at present of fifty men.

I hear it stated here, that as the war in Europe will cause the withdrawal of many of Her Majesty's cruizers from this and the African coast, the slavemongers may be induced to seize the opportunity of engaging again in their former occupation.

I do not fail to be on the alert respecting any infraction of the Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Brazil, and will bear in mind your instructions to report according as I may obtain information.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 220.

Consul Vereker to Consul Callander, June 22, 1854.

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 198.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to Consul Vereker.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 23, 1854.

YOUR letter of the 22nd ultimo, informing me of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the southern frontier of this province, has just been received. It had been sent on to Rio de Janeiro by mistake, which accounts for its delay on reaching me.

Your letter gives me the first news of a disembarkation of negroes, and though so long a time has elapsed since then, no one here seems to be aware that a landing had taken place.

Her Majesty's steamer "Rifleman" arrived here, from a cruize to the south of this island, on the 10th instant, and the Brazilian steamer "Recife" came in a few days ago from the south, but they did not see anything suspicious.

I will immediately communicate the information contained in your letter to the President, who will probably send a man-of-war to the place where the landing is said to have taken place. Meanwhile, you may be sure I will do all in my power to obtain the liberation of the unfortunate Africans, and also, if possible, to bring to justice the individuals connected with the illegal act of landing or receiving them.

Should any of the vessels implicated in the conveying or landing of these negroes arrive here, I will endeavour to have them detained.

I will communicate with you by first opportunity.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 4 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to the President of St. Catherine's.

Excellent Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 24, 1854.

HER Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul informs me, under date the 22nd ultimo, of the landing of a large number of Africans at a stream called Iguay, on the frontiers of this province where it touches the Province of Rio Grande do Sul on the coast.

The landing is stated to have been effected from a coasting-vessel,

which received the negroes from a larger vessel, supposed to have come from the coast of Africa.

I only received the above information yesterday.

The letter of Her Majesty's Consul having been forwarded to Rio de Janeiro by mistake, accounts for the length of time it took in reaching me.

I feel assured I have only to bring the above information to your Excellency's knowledge to subject it to a thorough investigation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 5 in No. 220.

The President of St. Catherine's to Consul Callander.

(Translation.)
Sir,

*Presidency of the Province of St. Catherine's,
July 24, 1854.*

YOUR official letter, dated yesterday, was presented to this Presidency, communicating to me your having received from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande, information under date of the 22nd ultimo, of the landing of a great number of Africans at the River Iguay on the south coast and frontier of this province with that of Rio Grande, and that the disembarkation was effected by coasting vessels, which received the Africans from another vessel which, it is supposed, came from the coast of Africa.

Similar information was given under date of the 20th by the said Consul to the President of Rio Grande, who communicated with me on the 30th ultimo.

This Presidency and that of Rio Grande having obtained the most minute information, it was not possible to collect any data that could in the least cause suspicion of there having been such disembarkation, since all the agents and custom-house officers of this province, as well as of Rio Grande, affirm there was nothing; and this official information is as true as the information that was given to the Consul at Rio Grande is unfounded. A disembarkation is then impracticable in the place indicated, unless the vessel should remain aground, and so be left to be observed by the custom-house officers who patrol those places, and by all the inhabitants and travellers.

You may believe that the information which was given to the said Consul does not exceed rumours without foundation, and even spread by persons of little consideration, who divert themselves with them.

Other rumours of this nature have come to the knowledge of this Presidency, which has verified the falsity of them.

Notwithstanding what is said above, this Presidency will have much satisfaction in receiving from you communications of all that comes to your knowledge about the Traffic, however unfounded it may appear, because the extinction of the African Slave Trade being the great pledge of the Governments of His Majesty the Emperor and of Her Britannic Majesty, the Undersigned apprehends that he ought not to despise those rumours before verifying their falsity.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) JCAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 6 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to the President of St. Catherine's.

Excellent Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday, acquainting me with the reasons that would make it appear that the information respecting the landing of Africans at Iguay is without foundation.

As you further acquaint me that it will give much satisfaction my communicating whatever may come to my knowledge respecting the Traffic of Africans, however groundless it may appear, on the understanding that these rumours ought not to be despised before being verified, I take the opportunity of mentioning that Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of the Empire has called my attention to the fact that a Brazilian vessel said to have been fitted out at Garopas for the Slave Trade, and to have sailed some time ago for the coast of Africa, has been long expected on the frontiers of the coasts of this province and Rio Grande with a cargo of Africans.

This information appears to coincide with that received by Mr. Consul Vereker at Rio Grande; and as all the reports at present in circulation tend to the same point, it may be judged requisite to institute some further inquiries, as well as to keep a surveillance on the part of the coast indicated by the rumours in question.

In the meantime I shall have the satisfaction of forwarding your letter for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 220.

The President of St. Catherine's to Consul Callander.

(Translation.)
Sir,

*Presidency of the Province of St. Catherine's,
July 26, 1854.*

I HAVE the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt of your official letter, dated yesterday, acknowledging the receipt of mine of the 24th instant, about the denounced disembarkation at Iguay; and acquainting me of having been informed by your Minister at the Court, that in Garopas a vessel had been prepared to go to the coast of Africa for slaves, and to disembark them on the south coast, at the boundary of this province with that of Rio Grande.

The denunciation of a hiate being prepared in Garopas for the Traffic, was communicated about the end of May by my Government.

The fact denounced did not take place, as is attested not only by the local authorities, but also by the commanders of the vessels employed in cruising, who visited all the ports in order to make inquiry in respect of it from the fishermen and other inhabitants of the coast.

The Chief of Police, who was at the north from the end of April to the 13th of May, and in Garopas on the 10th and 11th, informed me that, having proceeded to the most minute investigations respecting the Traffic of Africans, he could obtain nothing that could in the least cause suspicion of any preparation having been made; because, from all of whom he obtained information, he received this sole answer, "There has been nothing, and it is more than two years since anything of the kind has been spoken of here."

I profit, &c.
(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 8 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to the President of St. Catherine's.

xcellent Sir,

St. Catherine's, July 26, 1854.

I HASTEN to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of to-day's date, in reply to my communication of yesterday; and I shall take the earliest opportunity of transmitting it for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 9 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, August 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a letter I received from the President of this Province, in reply to mine of the 25th ultimo, copy of which has been already transmitted.

I have heard nothing further respecting the reported landing of slaves at Iguay. The Brazilian steamer "Pedro Segundo," I now hear, remains on this station till relieved.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 10 in No. 220.

Consul Callander to Mr. Howard.

Sir,

St. Catherine's, August 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that, up to this date, nothing further has transpired respecting the reported landing of Africans at Iguay.

With reference to the statement in my despatch of July 25th, respecting the Brazilian hiate "*Invencivel Catherinense*," I beg to inform you that, a few days ago, I was told by the Chief of Police and the Captain of the Port that news had been received here that she had been wrecked at Pernambuco when engaged in the prosecution of legal trade, thereby making the reports that have been afloat concerning her utterly false.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

No. 221.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, September 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that no slaves have been imported into this province during the quarter ended this day.

The landing of Africans on the southern frontier of this province, reported by Mr. Consul Vereker, has been emphatically denied by the various authorities.

I have the honour to lay before your Lordship the translations of a letter and inclosures which I received from the President of this province, on the subject of the disembarkation of Africans at Iguay.

Senhor Mariath in his letter states that the Commander of the "Recife" chased and searched a yacht in July, bound from Rio Grande to this place with country produce, which had been beating against contrary winds for twelve days in sight of the coast, and that this was, in his opinion, the origin of the denunciation given to the English Consul, and by him transmitted to the President of Rio Grande. Your Lordship will, however, perceive that it was impossible this could have been the case, as Mr. Consul Vereker reported a landing to have been effected at least three weeks previously to the yacht being searched by the "Recife."

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 221.

The President of St. Catherine's to Consul Callander.(Translation.)
Sir,*Presidency of the Province of St. Catherine's,*
September 28, 1854.

IN addition to the despatch which I addressed to you on the 24th of July last, I transmit to you the inclosed copies of despatches from the Commander of the steamer "Recife," and from the Chief of the squadron, Commander of the naval station, which prove the non-existence of the disembarkation of Africans denounced in June to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) JOAO JOSE COUTINHO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 221.

Commodore Mariath to the President of St. Catherine's.

(Translation.)

On board the steamer "Amazonas," at Rio de Janeiro,
Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *September 1, 1854.*

THE information given by the commander of the steamer "Recife," in the inclosed despatch, conclusively proves the want of foundation of the information given by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Rio Grande do Sul, that a disembarkation of Africans was effected on the 11th or 12th of June of the present year, at the place which he calls Iguay. That information is corroborated by the accounts given by the same commander and by the commanders of the steamers "Pedro Segundo" and "Beberibe," who, from the middle of May, have cruized from St. Catherine's to the south, and who are unanimous in affirming that no disembarkation or attempt at it had been made in those latitudes.

According to what the commander of the "Recife" reports, a national yacht, which he chased and searched in the month of July, tacked (beat) for twelve days in sight of the coast, compelled by contrary winds; and this is, in my opinion, the origin of the information given to the English Consul, and by him transmitted to the President of Rio Grande do Sul.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FREDERICO MARIATH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 221.

The Commander of the "Recife" to Commodore Mariath.

(Translation.)

On board the steamer "Recife," Rio de Janeiro,
Most Illustrious and Excellent Sir, *August 30, 1854.*

IN virtue of the order received from your Excellency, of yesterday's date, to the end that I would inform you, without delay, where I was on the 11th and 12th of last June, it behoves me to declare to your Excellency that on the above-mentioned days I was cruizing on the coast south of St. Catherine's, in the points comprehended from that island to some miles to the south of Cape Santa Martha Grande; and I did not search any vessel, none having been fallen in with. Perhaps there may be a mistake in the month; because that in July, on those days, finding myself cruizing upon the same points, I gave chase to and searched the national yacht "Cysné," belonging to Domingos Velloso de Oliveira, a merchant

in *St. Catherine's*, Thomas Xavier de Souza, master, coming from Rio Grande to *St. Catherine's*, with country produce, which, by reason of fresh winds from the north-east, was tacking (beating) more than twelve days in sight of the coast, and in consequence, finding himself short of water, and I not being able to supply him, having bad weather, I advised him that he should proceed to Imbituba, as he was to windward of that place, which is to the north of Laguna, and in my sight he repaired to that point. With respect to this yacht, I can assure your Excellency that it did not carry Africans; and I am persuaded that during the time that I have been employed in cruising on the said coast, no landing of Africans has taken place.

I searched also the brigantine "*Emiliana*" on the night of the 11th of July, in the latitude of Tramandahy, and which proceeded for Rio Grande; and on the following day I spoke several vessels which were standing off and on the bar of that port, waiting for water to enter; the said brigantine was also there.

As for the steamer "*Pedro Segundo*," she was at anchor in the Port of *St. Catherine's*.

On the 4th current, when I anchored, I did not write officially to your Excellency, not having more to say beyond what I mentioned in the observations of the report of the ship, as well as in the despatch of the 23rd of July, which I transmitted before to your Excellency from *St. Catherine's*, by the steamer "*Princeza Leopoldina*."

Annexed I have the honour to return to your Excellency the despatch of the 25th current, and that of the 8th, all from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which accompanied the above-mentioned order of your Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) For Delfim Carlos de Carvalho,
JOSE DA CUNHA MOREIRA.

No. 222.

Consul Callander to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20, 1855.)

My Lord,

St. Catherine's, December 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that, to the best of my knowledge, no slaves have been imported direct from Africa into this province during the quarter ended this day.

Slaves continue to be sent coastwise, principally to Rio de Janeiro.

The number dispatched during the past year, according to the police returns, amounts to 114. A very few have been sent from other parts of the province.

The prices of slaves for the same period have been from 800\$000 (93*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*), to 1,000\$000 (116*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*), and upwards, according to their capabilities.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RANDAL CALLANDER.

FRANCE.

No. 223.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Paris, April 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the accompanying copy of a note which I have received from the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, thanking me for having communicated to him the returns of the captures made by Her Majesty's squadron employed on the West Coast of Africa, in the suppression of the Slave Trade, during the years 1852 and 1853 respectively.

These returns had been forwarded to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd ultimo,* for communication to the French Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) COWLEY.

Inclosure in No. 223.

M. Drouyn de Lhuys to Lord Cowley.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Paris, le 5 Avril, 1854.

J'AI reçu, avec la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser le 29 du mois dernier, le tableau de prises faites pendant les années 1852 et 1853, par les navires de Sa Majesté Britannique employés à la repression de la Traite des Noirs sur la côte occidentale d'Afrique, et je m'empresse de la remercier de cet envoi.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé)

DROUYN DE LHUYS.

No. 224.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 12.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-Gate House, 11 Avril, 1854.

VOTRE Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire, le 7 Janvier dernier, que les Lords de la Trésorerie, chargés de statuer sur la réclamation en indemnité du propriétaire du navire Français "*l'Eliza*," n'avaient pas trouvé suffisants les documents produits jusqu'ici pour établir tant le chiffre exact du tonnage de ce navire, que la durée de sa détention par les croiseurs de Sa Majesté Britannique, et votre Excellence me demandait de lui fournir, sur ces deux points, des données précises, accompagnées de pièces justificatives.

J'ai l'honneur de transmettre ci-joint à votre Excellence deux actes notariés contenant les copies certifiées de toutes les pièces de bord rédigées à l'époque même de la capture de "*l'Eliza*" et du naufrage qui l'a suivi. Ces pièces établissent que l'arrestation de "*l'Eliza*" par le "*Volcano*" a eu lieu le 17 Mai, et que le Capitaine Periaud, commandant la Station Française des côtes occidentales d'Afrique, est arrivé à Sierra Leone, pour cette affaire, le 30 Juin

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 234.

suivant. Or, bien que l'illégalité de la capture eût effectivement été reconnue dès le 23 par le Lieutenant Saumany, ce ne fut pourtant qu'à l'arrivée du Capitaine Periaud que le navire fut rendu à son capitaine. La durée réelle de sa détention a donc été de quarante-cinq jours, et c'est, je crois, sur cette base qu'il conviendrait de calculer l'indemnité qu'il s'agit de régler aujourd'hui.

Pour ce qui concerne le chiffre du tonnage, l'acte de francisation du navire le porte en effet à cinquante-quatre tonneaux. Mais les Lords de la Trésorerie voudront bien remarquer les dimensions assignées au navire par cet acte lui-même que M. Baudin a eu l'honneur de transmettre à votre Excellence le 30 Novembre dernier, et la valeur de 25,000 francs qui est reconnue à "*l'Eliza*" par les polices d'assurances dont je joins ici les trois copies notariées. Ces divers chiffres paraissent tout-à-fait de nature à faire penser que le tonnage réel était en effet supérieur au tonnage légal, qui, d'après la loi sur la francisation qui régit notre commerce maritime, ne pourrait pas figurer officiellement pour plus de soixante tonneaux.

Il me reste à souhaiter, my Lord, que les Lords de la Trésorerie, dans l'examen des faits qui précèdent, et des diverses pièces que je joins à cette lettre, veuillent bien prendre en considération le naufrage de "*l'Eliza*" détournée de sa route par suite de l'erreur du croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique. Je ne prétends assurément pas faire de ce fâcheux événement un chef formel de réclamation, mais le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique est trop équitable pour n'en pas tenir un compte libéral dans la fixation de l'indemnité qu'il accordera au propriétaire de ce navire, qui, sans son arrestation, ne se fût pas trouvé dans les parages où il s'est perdu.

Agréez, &c.

(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

Inclosure in No. 224.

Substance of three Policies of Insurance inclosed in Count Walewski's letter of April 11, 1854.

POLICY dated May 13th, 1851, is an Insurance of Merchandize shipped on board the "*Eliza*" to the value of 70,000 florins.

Policy dated June 17th, 1851, is an Insurance of the Hull and Appurtenances of the "*Eliza*," to the value of 11,813 florins.

Policy dated July 9th 1851, is an Insurance on the freight of the ship, which is estimated by consent at 7,080 florins.

No. 225.

M. Baudin to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 12.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 11 Août, 1854.

PAR une lettre en date du 7 Janvier, 1854, votre Excellence a demandé à M. le Comte Walewski de lui fournir certains documents destinés à guider les Lords de la Trésorerie dans l'appréciation qu'ils ont à faire du chiffre de l'indemnité à laquelle peut avoir droit le navire Français "*l'Eliza*" par suite de son arrestation à la côte d'Afrique. L'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale a eu l'honneur de transmettre ces pièces à votre Excellence sous la date du 11 Avril dernier et je prends la liberté de vous demander de vouloir bien me faire connaître si les Lords de la Trésorerie ont rendu leur décision.

J'ai, &c.

(Signé) CH. BAUDIN.

No. 226.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. Baudin.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 29, 1854.

WITH reference to your note of the 11th instant, and to the previous correspondence which has taken place between this office and the French Embassy on the subject of the indemnity to be paid to the owner of the French vessel "*Eliza*," for the loss sustained by him from the improper detention of his vessel on suspicion of being concerned in the Slave Trade by Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*," in May 1851, I have now the honour to communicate to you the decision to which, after a full consideration of the facts of the case, Her Majesty's Government have come upon the subject.

The total amount claimed on behalf of the owner of the "*Eliza*" is 441*l.*

The first item of this charge is for demurrage (amounting to 285*l.*), calculated at the rate of 5*l.* per day for fifty-seven days.

Her Majesty's Government cannot allow this charge to its full extent, as, in the first place, the real time of the detention of the "*Eliza*" was only forty-five days, namely, from the 17th May to the 30th June, 1851; and in the second place, the charge of 5*l.* a day for a vessel of only fifty-four tons burden is very unreasonable, as it is stipulated by the several Treaties between this country and foreign Powers that 5*l.* per day is the sum to be allowed for demurrage for vessels of from 100 to 120 tons burden.

It is therefore proposed that the charge for demurrage should be calculated at the rate of 30*s.* per ton per month on fifty-four tons, which is at the same rate as is now paid to vessels in Her Majesty's Transport Service, and which would amount to 121*l.* 10*s.*

The second item amounts to 100*l.*, being for various alleged losses and expenses occasioned by the detention of the "*Eliza*," including the premium of an insurance and commission thereupon made upon that vessel and her cargo for a voyage which her owner intended her to make after the completion of the one in which she was lost.

This claim is quite inadmissible, both because sums paid for insurance do not generally come within the description of costs and damages occasioned by the detention of a vessel, and because the insurance in question had nothing to do with the voyage in which the "*Eliza*" was seized.

The next is a charge of 15*l.* for premium on an insurance said to have been effected on the "*Eliza*" for her voyage from the Bissao Channel, the place of her detention, to Sierra Leone.

Now as the owner of this vessel could only have known of her detention upon her arrival at Sierra Leone, it is difficult to understand how this insurance could have been effected. This charge cannot therefore be allowed.

The fourth charge is for 7*l.* due to the Master of the "*Eliza*" for piloting his vessel at the request of the mate of Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*."

This is equally inadmissible, as in all cases where demurrage is to be allowed to an owner, he is bound to pay out of that sum the wages of the master and crew of his vessel.

Fifthly, the owner claims 34*l.* for the loss of a voyage by the detention of the "*Eliza*," for Consular expenses at Sierra Leone, and for personal annoyance from having his name connected with Slave Trade proceedings.

The only part of this charge which is admissible is that for Consular expenses, of which, however, no separate account is rendered, but for which Her Majesty's Government will allow 17*l.*

There appears to be also a bill of costs of a Mr. Dougan on behalf of the owner amounting to 36*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* which does not form an item of the charges put forward in the memorandum of the French Consular Agent at Sierra Leone, inclosed in Count Walewski's note to Lord Palmerston, of the 10th of September, 1851, but which, if it has not been paid by the seizer, Her Majesty's Government will think it right to refund to the owner of the "*Eliza*."

The amount, therefore, which Her Majesty's Government are prepared to order to be paid to the owner of the "*Eliza*" as compensation for her improper detention by Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*," in May 1851, is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For demurrage	121	10	0
„ Consular expenses	17	0	0
„ Mr. Dougan's Bill	36	9	7
	<hr/>		
	£174	19	7

And I have to request that you will communicate to your Government the decision to which Her Majesty's Government have come upon this matter, and which they trust the French Government will find to be a just and equitable arrangement.

I beg to add, that upon receiving your acquiescence in the terms proposed, I shall be prepared to order the payment to you of the sum thus awarded to the owner of the "*Eliza*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 227.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch from Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, reporting his communications with the Porte respecting the trade in Georgian and Circassian slaves, and a copy of an instruction which I have addressed to his Excellency in reply.*

I have to instruct your Excellency to express to M. Drouyn de Lhuys the hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of France will join with them in insisting that the Slave Trade should be put down, which, with all its odious consequences, brings disgrace upon the allies whose fleets and armies are now aiding the country in which this system not only exists, but is actually aggravated by their successes against Russia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 228.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 3.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 2, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo I have the honour to state that M. Drouyn de Lhuys will be happy to assist your Lordship in insisting with the Porte that the Slave Trade shall be put down within the Sultan's dominions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 229.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 23.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 21 Octobre, 1854.

VOTRE Excellence a fait connaître à M. Baudin, le 29 Août dernier, la décision des Lords de la Trésorerie sur la réclamation en indemnité du propriétaire du navire Français "*l'Eliza*," arrêté sur la côte d'Afrique par le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique "*Volcano*."

J'ai l'honneur d'annoncer à votre Excellence que les propriétaires de "*l'Eliza*" acceptent le chiffre de l'indemnité fixé à 174*l.* 19*s.* 7*d.* Mais que, comme cette somme d'après leurs calculs ne répond pas à l'importance des dommages, ils osent espérer que la Cour des Lords de la Trésorerie leur en accordera les intérêts depuis le 1 Juillet, 1851, jour de la relaxation de "*l'Eliza*," jusqu'au 29 Août, 1854. L'intérêt constant que mon Gouvernement a pris à cette réclamation, comme les efforts empressés que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique a faits de son côté pour terminer cette affaire, me font bien augurer du succès de cette dernière demande des propriétaires de "*l'Eliza*," et je n'hésite pas à vous la transmettre, M. le Comte, en vous priant d'agréer, &c.

(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 230.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Excellency of the 27th ultimo, I transmit herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch * which I have received from Her Majesty's Ambassador at the Porte, inclosing translations of two Imperial firmans which have been addressed to the Pasha in command of the Ottoman army at Batoum, prohibiting the Traffic in Slaves in Circassia and Georgia.

Your Excellency will communicate copies of these documents to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, if he should not have received them already, and you will take this opportunity to thank his Excellency for the readiness with which he undertook to assist Her Majesty's Government in endeavouring to prevail upon the Porte to put down this Traffic.

I inclose also for communication to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, a copy of a despatch which I have addressed† to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, instructing his Excellency to request that the Ottoman Government will empower Admiral Dundas to concert with the Ottoman Governors of Batoum and Trebizond, the adoption of measures in order to prevent the Sultan's prohibition of the Circassian and Georgian Slave Trade from being evaded by ships under the Ottoman flag. Your Excellency will express to M. Drouyn de Lhuys the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of France will instruct the French Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople to make an application to the Porte with regard to the cooperation of Admiral Hamelin, similar to that which I have directed Lord Stratford to make.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 231.

Lord Cowley to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 29, 1854.

I HAVE read your Lordship's despatch of the 24th instant to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and his Excellency will send instructions to the French Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, in the sense desired by your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

* No. 570.

† No. 572.

No. 232.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Walewski.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency that I have referred to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, your letter of the 21st ultimo respecting the amount of compensation to be paid to the owner of the French vessel "*Eliza*," for her detention in 1851, by Lieutenant Reeve, of Her Majesty's steamer "*Volcano*," and I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that their Lordships have admitted the representation made by your Excellency on behalf of the owner of the "*Eliza*," claiming interest for the period between the 1st of July, 1851, and the 29th of August, 1854, upon the compensation which Her Majesty's Government have offered to pay to the owner of that vessel.

I have, however, to refer your Excellency to one item in the estimate made by the Lords of the Treasury of the French owner's claim, which estimate was communicated to the French Embassy in the concluding portion of my note to M. Baudin, of the 29th of August. That item is the bill of costs of a Mr. Dougan on behalf of the owner of the "*Eliza*," amounting to 36*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.*

Your Excellency will observe that it was assumed by the Lords of the Treasury that the owner might have been still liable for the payment of this charge; but I have to explain that their Lordships have since ascertained, on application to Lieutenant Reeve's agents in London, that Mr. Dougan's bill was paid by Mr. Reeve's agent at Sierra Leone, on the 25th of August, 1851, and the Lords of the Treasury have therefore deducted this sum of 36*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* from the amount of compensation due to the French owner.

The amount will accordingly now stand as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Demurrage	121	10	0
Consular expenses	17	0	0
	<hr/>		
	138	10	0
Interest	20	18	7
	<hr/>		
	£159	8	7

And I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Lords of the Treasury will be prepared to direct Her Majesty's Paymaster-General to pay the above mentioned sum of 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* to such person as your Excellency may appoint to receive it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 233.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 29.)

M. le Comte.

Albert-gate House, le 28 Novembre, 1854.

J'AI porté à la connaissance du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Impériale, qui l'a communiquée aux intéressés, la décision des Lords de la Trésorerie dont votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'informer par sa lettre du 15 de ce mois, dans l'affaire du navire Français "*l'Eliza*."

Les propriétaires de ce navire manquent en ce moment de données positives sur le paiement des frais dûs à M. Dougan; ils n'élèvent donc pas de difficulté sur la réduction prononcée à cet égard, convaincus que s'il venait à être prouvé plus tard que ces frais sont restés à leur charge, une simple production de pièces de leur part suffirait pour faire reconnaître leur droit. Ils acceptent en conséquence le règlement d'indemnité arrêté par la Trésorerie dans les termes que

votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'indiquer dans sa lettre du 15, et je suis prêt à recevoir, en leur nom, et au nom de mon Gouvernement, la somme de 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.*, montant de l'indemnité, si vous voulez bien, M. le Comte, me la faire tenir, ou m'indiquer où elle doit être touchée.

Agréé, &c.
(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 234.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Walewski.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 28th of November, stating that the owners of the French vessel "*Eliza*" are ready to accept the sum of 159*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* as compensation on the part of Her Majesty's Government for the detention of that vessel by Her Majesty's ship "*Volcano*" in May 1851.

I inclose herewith an order payable to bearer for the sum in question, and I have to request that your Excellency will have the goodness to favour me with an acknowledgment of its receipt.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 235.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 5.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 4 Décembre, 1854.

J'AI eu l'honneur de faire connaître à votre Excellence, le 28 Février, 1853, en lui en communiquant le texte, l'arrêt rendu par la Cour d'Appel de Bordeaux, le 24 Mai précédant, dans l'affaire du navire Français le "*Marabout*," arrêté sous prévention de Traite, en 1841, par le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique la "*Rose*." Cet arrêt, écartant, en ce qui concernait le fait même de la capture du navire, la demande d'indemnité formée par les propriétaires du navire contre le Capitaine Christie, les déclarait recevables quant à leur réclamation en dommages-intérêts pour la détention indûment prolongée de leur équipage sur des navires de guerre Anglais, ordonnait la fixation du chiffre de ces dommages, et condamnait le Capitaine Christie aux frais de première instance et d'appel. J'exprimais en même temps à votre Excellence l'opinion où j'étais que les intéressés seraient disposés à transiger sur le chiffre des dommages intérêts, afin d'éviter les délais que ne manquerait pas d'entraîner leur règlement par la voie judiciaire. A la demande de votre Excellence, j'ai eu l'honneur de lui faire connaître, le 24 Juin suivant, le chiffre des prétentions des propriétaires du "*Marabout*," s'élevant à 212,914 francs. Le 24 Novembre, vous avez bien voulu m'informer du rejet absolu de ces prétentions par les Lords de la Trésorerie, ou, du moins, de la disposition où ils étaient de ne transiger que sur des bases qui ont paru inacceptables aux réclamants. Ceux-ci ont, dès lors, laissé l'affaire suivre le cours judiciaire que lui avait tracé l'arrêt du 24 Mai, 1852, et je viens d'être chargé d'avoir l'honneur d'informer votre Excellence du nouvel arrêt rendu par la Cour Impériale de Bordeaux, en ce qui touche cette fois le chiffre des dommages-intérêts résultant de la détention indûment prolongée de l'équipage du "*Marabout*." Cet arrêt, en date du 12 Juillet dernier, condamne M. le Capitaine Christie à payer aux intéressés une somme de 93,401 francs 88 centimes, avec intérêts à 6 pour cent depuis le 14 Décembre, 1841, date de l'exploit introductif d'instance, jusqu'au jour du paiement. Le Capitaine Christie a, de plus, été condamné aux dépens de l'instance, s'élevant à 5,247 francs 61 centimes, dont 4,269 francs 56 centimes au profit des liquidateurs L. Lépertière, et 377 francs 45 centimes au profit des héritiers Le Ray. Cette

somme fixée pour les dépens, est indépendante de celle qui avait été réglée pour les frais du premier jugement, et dont votre Excellence a bien voulu m'adresser le montant avec sa lettre du 12 Janvier dernier.

J'ai, &c.
(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

P.S.—Je joins ici neuf pièces judiciaires que votre Excellence jugera sans doute à propos de communiquer aux Lords de la Trésorerie, savoir :

1. L'arrêt de la Cour Impériale de Bordeaux du 24 Mai, 1852.
2. L'arrêt de la même Cour du 12 Juillet, 1854.
3. L'acte de signification de ce dernier arrêt aux avoués.
4. L'acte de signification du même arrêt aux parties.
- 5, 6, et 7. L'exécutoire des frais de l'instance au profit des liquidateurs Lépertière contre le Capitaine Christie; les actes de signification de cet exécutoire à l'avoué et à la partie.
- 8 et 9. L'exécutoire des mêmes frais au profit des héritiers Le Ray; sa signification à l'avoué.

No. 236.

Count Walewski to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 7.)

M. le Comte,

Albert-gate House, le 5 Décembre, 1854.

J'AI reçu, avec la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'écrire en date du 1 de ce mois, le mandat de 159l. 8s. 7d. qui y était joint, et qui est le montant de l'indemnité accordée par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique aux propriétaires du navire Français "*l'Eliza*," pour son arrestation par le croiseur de Sa Majesté Britannique le "*Volcano*," en Mai 1851.

Je n'ai pas manqué de transmettre cette somme à mon Gouvernement, et en accusant réception à votre Excellence je la prie d'agréer, &c.

(Signé) A. WALEWSKI.

No. 237.

The Earl of Clarendon to Count Walewski.

M. l'Ambassadeur,

Foreign Office, December 8, 1854

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the letter which your Excellency addressed to me on the 4th instant, respecting the damages awarded by the Imperial Court of Bordeaux to the parties interested in the French vessel, "*Marabout*."

I have referred your Excellency's letter with its inclosures to the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, and as soon as I shall have received a reply from their Lordships, I shall have the honour of addressing your Excellency again upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

HANSE TOWNS.

No. 238.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 22.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, May 18, 1854.

A BRAZILIAN vessel, the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," I believe armed, has entered the port of Bremen, which it is intended to fit out there for the Slave Trade. She is a very fast sailing vessel, and has accommodation on board her for 600 persons.

The Brazilian Consul-General here informs me that he has been over to Bremen to ascertain the truth of the reports made to him about this vessel, and he fully confirms to me the above statement. He considered it his duty to take from the vessel all flags she had on board, except one of the Brazils, and to place on board persons to watch her; but as he found that the captain had bribed them, he had applied to the Bremen Government, who promised him that they would watch the movements of the vessel.

I have also directed Her Majesty's Vice-Consul to ascertain all the particulars about this vessel, and let me know as to her movements.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 239.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant, reporting that a Brazilian vessel called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" had arrived at Bremen, for the purpose of being there fitted out for the Slave Trade.

And I have to desire that you will cause a strict watch to be kept on the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," and that you will immediately report to me any information as to her movements which you may obtain.

No. 240.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th instant, respecting the movements of the suspected slaver "*Don Pedro Segundo*," which vessel you had reported to have arrived at Bremen, I have further to desire that if you should have reason to suppose that the authorities of Bremen are disposed in any way to protect or assist the equipment of the vessel in question for the Slave Trade, you will protest strongly against such connivance, and you will remind the Government of Bremen of the engagements which they contracted towards Great Britain and France by the Treaty of the 9th of June, 1837, in which they undertook to cooperate with those Governments towards the complete suppression of the Slave Trade.

CLASS B.

No. 241.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 2.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, May 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th instant, and in obedience to your Lordship's instructions I shall cause a strict watch to be kept on the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," now lying at Bremerhaven, and report to your Lordship all I may learn as to her movements.

I have obtained from the Brazilian Consul-General the inclosed statement respecting this vessel, which will show what steps have been taken by him to watch her, and from which it will appear that she is now for sale, but I understand that her real Master, Tomasini, is not anxious to find a purchaser for her.

The consignees of the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" are, Messrs. Lange and Grave, at Bremen, and the Bremen authorities have assured the Consul-General for the Brazils, that great vigilance shall be used in regard to her whilst in their port.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

Inclosure in No. 241.

Memorandum.

PAR office du 18 Février, et par bateau-à-vapeur, le Président de Bahia a annoncé au Consul-Général du Brésil dans les villes Anséatiques, que le navire Brésilien "*Don Pedro Segundo*" était parti du Port de Bahia le 16, avec chargement de sucre, sel et tabac, se dirigeant à Bremen. Et comme ce navire appartenait à un des plus entreprenants négriers, Thomas da Costa Ramos, dit "le Maneto," qui s'était sauvé du Brésil, où il était poursuivi, et résidait à Lisbonne, il fallait le surveiller, parcequ'il ne serait pas impossible qu'il voulût s'armer à Bremen pour aller faire la Traite.

Au même temps, M. Limpo d'Abreo, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères à Rio de Janeiro, ordonnait au même Consul-Général d'exercer la plus grande surveillance sur le dit navire "*Don Pedro Segundo*," car à tout prix il fallait empêcher l'infame Trafique de Noirs. Ce navire dès sa construction était surveillé par les autorités Brésiliennes, et par les Agents du Gouvernement Impérial à l'étranger.

Aussitôt que le Consul-Général a reçu un avis, il a ordonné au Vice-Consul à Bremen d'exercer la plus active et sévère surveillance sur le navire en question dès qu'il arriverait.

Le 1 Avril le navire est arrivé au Port de Bremen (Bremerhafen), et avant d'avoir jetté l'ancre, un agent de confiance le surveillait de la manière la plus habile.

Le Consul-Général, prévenu tous les jours de ce qui se passait, est allé lui-même à Bremerhafen le 28 Avril, jour que lui était annoncé comme celui où devait finir le déchargement du navire, et accompagné d'un homme spécial il a procédé à une rigoureuse visite, et interrogé le capitaine, le pilote, et les gens de l'équipage, qui tous ont nié vouloir faire la Traite.

Le pilote (Tomassini) qui est le caissier du navire, n'a pas nié que le navire était construit exprès pour faire la Traite, et que partout où il se présentait on l'appelait négrier. Ce Tomassini avait été lui-même négrier, ce que n'inspirait pas confiance dans ses protestations de ne plus vouloir d'un tel commerce. Un autre motif de défiance c'était que le navire ne voulait accepter aucun des avantageux affrètements qu'on lui offrait, Tomassini répondant qu'il attendait des ordres de son propriétaire.

Par toutes ces raisons le Consul-Général a redoublé sa surveillance, et pour plus de sécurité il s'est adressé au Sénateur Smidt, qui, en absence du Bourguemaitre, présidait la Commission chargée du Département des Affaires Etrangères pour faire surveiller le navire par la police de Bremerhafen.

Le Sénateur Smidt comprenant la défaveur qui résulterait pour le com-

merce de Bremen si de son port il partait un navire préparé pour faire la Traite, a promis au Consul-Général de faire rigoureusement surveiller le navire, son capitaine, son pilote, et son équipage, et en effet cela se fait avec beaucoup d'activité.

Soit parceque le navire devient suspect partout où il se présente, soit parceque la surveillance qu'à Bremerhafen on exerce sur lui, ne lui permet pas de se préparer pour l'affreux commerce de la Traite, Tomassini a sollicité de son propriétaire l'ordre pour le vendre, et dans ce moment il est en vente.

No. 242.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 3.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, June 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Brazilian Consul-General for Hamburg and the other Hanse Towns has just returned from Bremen, whither he had gone respecting the sale of the Brazilian vessel "*Don Pedro Segundo*," and that on Tuesday last, the 27th instant, she was sold in his presence to M. Jacob Junge, a merchant and citizen of Bremen.

There is, therefore, every probability that this vessel will now be employed solely in lawful commerce, the only further steps required being that she should be placed in due form under the Bremen flag, until which is done, however, Tomasini, the master, stated that the purchase would not be completed.

Immediately after the sale, Tomasini dismissed the whole of his crew and sent them on shore; but by a telegraphic despatch received this morning by the Brazilian Consul-General, he is informed that the Bremen authorities had ordered the crew to go on board again; on what grounds he does not know.

I am further informed by the Brazilian Consul-General that he has ascertained beyond doubt that the "*Don Pedro Segundo*" was sent to Bremen expressly that she should be fitted out for the Slave Trade; and that under those circumstances he will in no case allow her to leave Bremen under the Brazilian flag.

I have directed Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen to continue to exercise the greatest vigilance in looking after the vessel, and I shall immediately acquaint your Lordship of anything further that may occur respecting her deserving of notice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 243.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting the Brazilian vessel the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," I have to state to you that I have received a despatch upon the subject from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, in which he states that "the vessel in question is notorious in the annals of Brazilian slave-trading;" and I have to desire that you will inform me what has become of the "*Don Pedro Segundo*."

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 244.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, October 9, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 4th instant, desiring to know what had become of the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," I beg to refer to the inclosed copy of the answer which I have received from

Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen to my inquiries in consequence of such despatch, and by which it appears that she is still lying, as I had every reason to believe, in the port of Bremerhaven.

This vessel was purchased by a Bremen merchant of the name of Jung, for 10,000 rix dollars, on condition that Bremen papers and flag could be obtained for her.

The Senate of Bremen had persisted in refusing to grant the papers and flag of that State to the "*Don Pedro Segundo*;" but, as appears from the inclosure, in consequence of her having been considerably altered, it is probable that they will grant her a Bremen nationality, and if so I shall duly report the same.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

Inclosure in No. 244.

Vice-Consul Pearkes to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Bremen, October 7, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your despatch of yesterday's date, and in compliance therewith, I beg leave to inform you that the vessel "*Don Pedro Segundo*," being now the property of a Bremen merchant, no objection will be made in granting her Bremen papers, on delivery to the Senate of the ship-builder's certificate confirming the completion of the alterations which have been deemed requisite, to remove any doubt that might or could be entertained of the vessel being intended again for the Slave Trade.

The "*Don Pedro Segundo*" was formerly a brig, but has now received a third mast, and thereby is altered to a barque, the yards are shortened, the sails altered, &c., &c. I understand her name in future is to be "*Wolda*," and in consequence of the alterations which have been made, will now require only a complement of 16 to 18 men—the former crew was 23. The vessel lies at present in the dock at Bremerhaven, and will probably proceed to an English port to load coals for a trans-Atlantic one, as the great reduction in the passage money for emigrants to the United States offers at present little or no inducement to send a vessel there.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. PEARKES.

No. 245.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 23.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, October 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship, in regard to the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," that Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen has communicated to me under date of the 17th instant, that the documents required having been handed to the Senate of that city, the necessary papers granting nationality have been given to the vessel formerly called "*Don Pedro Segundo*," and she is now, therefore, entitled to the rights of the Bremen flag. The vessel's name is now "*Wolda*."

Mr. Pearkes will inform me immediately of the above mentioned vessel's departure from the Weser, with her destination, so far as he can learn the same, it being as yet undecided whether she is to proceed to a British port, or to one in Venezuela; and I shall take care to communicate those particulars to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 246.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

(No. 15.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, reporting that a Portuguese brig called the "*Experiencia*," suspected of being intended for the Slave Trade, had sailed for Hamburg on the 25th of August last; and I have to instruct you to take measures to have the proceedings of this vessel watched on her arrival at Hamburg.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 247.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 4.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 1, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit copy of a letter which I have received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bremen, stating that the vessel formerly called the "*Don Pedro Segundo*," but now the "*Wolda*," had sailed for a port in Colombia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

Inclosure in No. 247.

Vice-Consul Pearkes to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Bremen, October 31, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report to you that the Bremen barque "*Wolda*," Shneye, master, (formerly "*Don Pedro Segundo*,") sailed this morning at about 8 o'clock with a southerly wind from Bremerhaven for a port in Colombia, either La Guayra or Puerto Cabello, and as I am informed in ballast.

I have, &c.
(Signed) B. PEARKES.

No. 248.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 4.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th ultimo, with inclosure from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro; and I beg to inform your Lordship that the "*Experiencia*," Portuguese brig, has not yet arrived here, but that, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I shall take measures so soon as she reaches this port to have her proceedings here watched, and shall duly inform you of the same.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

* No. 150.

No. 249.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 9.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 6, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the Portuguese brig the "*Experiencia*," referred to in your despatch of the 27th ultimo, arrived in the port of Hamburg on Friday last, with a cargo of coffee consigned to merchants of this city. This vessel is now discharging her cargo, which will occupy her about a week; but I have, according to your Lordship's instructions, given directions to have her proceedings strictly watched, and I shall transmit all information that I may obtain worthy of attention to your Lordship without any delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 250.

Colonel Hodges to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 23.)

My Lord,

Hamburg, November 20, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 27th ultimo, I have now the honour to inform your Lordship that the "*Experiencia*," having discharged her cargo of coffee, is now clearing out from this port with part of a cargo of tar, and partly in ballast for Lisbon.

From the various inquiries that I have made, I find that the "*Experiencia*" belongs to the Cod Fish Company at Lisbon, a very respectable commercial company; that she has only a crew of eleven men; and that there are no grounds for suspecting that she is now in any way connected with slave-trading, and this is also the opinion of my Brazilian colleague here, who has likewise been watching the proceedings of this vessel.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. LLOYD HODGES.

No. 251.

The Earl of Clarendon to Colonel Hodges.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 30, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 1st of November last,* reporting that the "*Wolda*" formerly the Brazilian slaver "*Don Pedro Segundo*," had sailed from Bremen for La Guayra or Puerto Cabello, I now transmit to you for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Venezuela, and its inclosure, reporting that the "*Wolda*" had arrived at Puerto Cabello, and that there was no reason to doubt that she was engaged in lawful trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 247.

† No. 636.

MEXICO.

No. 252.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Mexico, March 4, 1854.

IN accordance with your Lordship's directions, contained in your despatch of the 30th of last December, I addressed the Minister for Foreign Affairs a note, the copy of which I have the honour to inclose, as well as of his Excellency's answer, by which your Lordship will see that no proposals whatever have been made by the Spanish Government, of the nature alluded to in your Lordship's despatch, and that the Mexican Government are determined to observe most faithfully all the conditions of their Slave Trade Treaty with Great Britain.

In my despatch of the 2nd ultimo,* I had the honour to inclose the terms granted to Señor Vecino, Bavarian Consul at Havana, for taking Yucatan Indians to Cuba as free labourers, and I now forward to your Lordship copy of a despatch I have addressed to the British Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, directing him to give me information of the slightest attempt at any infringement of the terms which were to be observed, I have also directed Mr. Consul Giffard, at Vera Cruz, to put himself into communication with persons residing at Merida and Campeachy, with the same object.

The Spanish Minister, in speaking to me on this subject, told me that he did not suppose the authorities in the Island of Cuba would permit the Mexican Consul to exercise this stipulated intervention, but which, however, I do not see could be prevented if the orders of this Government are carried out. On the other hand, the American Chargé d'Affaires, speaking to me on the same subject, said that he felt certain his Government would never allow such a system to be carried out.

I have &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

 Inclosure I in No. 252.
*Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.**Mexico, February 4, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has instructions to state to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Court of Madrid, having brought before the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the question of the unfortunate Yucatan Indians, who had been kidnapped by a person of the name of Anduze, and sent to the Island of Cuba as slaves. Mr. Otway was informed in writing by Señor Calderon de la Barca, that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty was about to come to an understanding with that of Mexico, respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba as colonists. The Undersigned is instructed to say, that until Her Majesty's Government are officially informed of the fact, they will hesitate to believe that the Mexican Government has entered into arrangements with the Spanish Government for the exportation of unfortunate Indians to Cuba, as it

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 252.

would be tantamount to aiding the Spanish Government to violate a solemn Treaty engagement with England. The Undersigned has had such experience of the feelings of all the different administrations of this country with respect to the iniquitous Traffic in Slaves, which all the Great Powers in Christendom are striving to put an end to, by every means in their power, and for which purpose Mexico has also entered into solemn Treaty arrangements with Great Britain, that he feels convinced his Excellency Señor Bonilla will enable him to state to Her Majesty's Government that no such arrangement as is stated by Señor Calderon de la Barca to have been proposed to Mexico, will be carried out by the present enlightened Government of this country, and that they will rather take every means in their power of preventing the slightest act being committed by the local authorities of Yucatan, by which the Indians of that peninsula might under any pretext be sent to the Island of Cuba, in such a manner as to place them in a situation even of forced labour, which would be, as far as they were concerned, virtually placing them in a state of slavery under a disguised shape.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 252.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, February 8, 1854.

THE Undersigned has had the honour to receive his Excellency the British Minister's note, in which it is stated that Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Court of Spain, having addressed the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs upon the subject of the Yucatan Indians, who had been kidnapped by a man called Anduze, and sent to the Island of Cuba as slaves, Mr. Otway had received an answer from Señor Calderon de la Barca informing him that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty were on the point of drawing up an agreement with Mexico respecting the exportation of Yucatan Indians as colonists.

His Excellency Mr. Doyle also states in his above-mentioned note that until Her Majesty's Government are officially informed of the fact they will hesitate to believe that the Mexican Government has entered into arrangements with that of Spain, respecting the above-mentioned exportation, and requests that every means in their power may be employed to prevent the slightest act being committed by the local authorities of Yucatan, by which the Indians of that peninsula might be sent, under any pretext whatever, to the Island of Cuba.

The Undersigned has to assure his Excellency Mr. Doyle, that no proposals whatever have been made by the Spanish Government, as has been affirmed, and the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may be convinced that Mexico, faithful to the conduct she has observed on this subject, will take care that the Treaty upon Slavery shall be religiously complied with in all its details.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 252.

Mr. Doyle to Vice-Consul Shiels.

(Extract.)

Mexico, February 15, 1854.

AN arrangement has been lately made by this Government with M. Tito Vecino, Bavarian Consul in the Havana, by virtue of which he is authorised to enter into contracts with the Indians of Yucatan to go as free labourers to the Island of Cuba. I herewith inclose for your information a copy of the terms* upon which only those contracts are to be made, and have also to inform you that I have, in accordance with instructions from the Earl of Clarendon, protested against any measure which this Government might take, by which the Indians in question should be sent to the Island of Cuba against their will, thus tending to place them virtually in a state of slavery. His Excellency Señor Bonilla has informed me that he has sent special instructions to all the local

* See Class B, presented 1854, p. 344.

authorities to prevent any infraction of the terms upon which the contracts are to be made, to report to the Supreme Government any attempts of such a nature. A Colonel Jimenez, who belonged formerly to the staff of General Santa Anna, has been sent to Yucatan as agent for Señor Vecino, and I have to request you will do all in your power to watch his movements, should he make his appearance at the Isla del Carmen, or cause any Indians to be embarked from that port, and take such measures as you consider best for obtaining every information with respect to the carrying out the contracts in question.

No. 253.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Mexico, April 2, 1854:

AS far back as the month of last November, I addressed a note, copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 2nd of last December, to Señor Bonilla, in which I brought to the serious attention of this Government the conduct of Señor Vivo, who authorised certainly, although he did not sign, the issuing the false papers given to the "*Mariana*" to sail under Mexican colours. Señor Bonilla made me the most solemn promises that the case should be most strictly examined into, and if the charges were proved to be correct, that Señor Vivo should be treated as he deserved; but although such a length of time has been allowed to elapse, I could obtain no information of the result of the measures taken by Señor Bonilla; and as I had my reasons to suppose that the wish entertained was to allow the matter to drop, I considered it proper to address a note to his Excellency on this subject, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, because, were no notice taken of so scandalous a case, other Mexican Consuls might be tempted to follow Señor Vivo's example. That my suspicions were correct, I think your Lordship will perceive, by the answer I received from Señor Bonilla, a copy and translation of which is also inclosed, as well as of the answer I considered it my duty to make to that communication; and I have the honour to request your Lordship will furnish me with such instructions as you may consider necessary, in the event of my receiving no further communication on this matter from the Mexican Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 253.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 23, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive a note dated the 22nd of last November, from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, inclosing copy of the sentence of condemnation pronounced by the Judge of the District Court of Vera Cruz, in virtue of which the vessel called the "*Mariana*" was declared to be a legal prize, it having been proved that she had been employed in the Slave Trade. In that sentence, the Judge called the attention of the Supreme Government to what he stated to be a fraudulent act committed by the person then in charge of the Mexican Consulate in the Havana, in issuing false papers, compromising thereby the honour of the Mexican nation. The Judge supposed, that the person at that time in charge of the Consulate was Don Joaquín Soler; but the Undersigned, in a note which he had the honour to address to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla on the 24th of last November, when he brought before his Excel-

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lency's attention the fact of Judge Sharkey, the American Consul at that time in the Havana, having demanded that an investigation should be made with respect to his name having been falsely made use of in this transaction. The Undersigned also laid before his Excellency the fact that, although the false papers in question were signed by Don Joaquin Soler on the 13th of last May, although Señor Vivo, the Consul, had reached that island on the 9th, and only made over the Consulate to Señor Carvallo on the 17th of the same month, when he started for Spain to place himself at the head of the Mexican Legation in that country, and M. Soler accompanied him as attached to that Legation. In a note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency Señor Bonilla on the 4th of last December, in accordance with the instructions he received from Her Majesty's Government, to express their acknowledgments to the Government of this country for its ready cooperation and the assistance it afforded in seizing and condemning the noted slaver in question, he was also instructed to express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the measures which the Undersigned had informed them had been taken to examine into the conduct of both Señor Vivo as well as that of M. Soler, would be closely followed up, tending as their conduct had done to compromise the honour of Mexico; and such being the case, Her Majesty's Government felt assured that this matter would not be lightly dealt with. But as so many months have passed since this communication took place, and as both the persons in question still hold the same high public offices they before held, the Undersigned would feel obliged to his Excellency Señor Bonilla to communicate to him, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the result of the inquiries made on this distressing subject.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 253.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, March 30, 1854.

THE Undersigned has had the honour to receive his Excellency Mr. Doyle's note of the 23rd instant, relating to charges which had been brought against the persons in the Consulate of the Republic at the Havana, with reference to some documents about the "*Mariana*," which has since been declared a prize, on account of its having been employed in the Slave Trade.

In answer, the Undersigned has to state to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, that his Government have taken such measures as they have thought proper for the elucidation of the case alluded to by his Excellency, and for the discovery of the person implicated in it, with a view to ulterior proceedings.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 253.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 31, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to address a note to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla on the 23rd instant, in which he requested to be informed, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, of the result of the investigation made into the conduct of Señor Vivo, the present Mexican Minister in Madrid, and of Señor Soler, attached to the same Legation, both of whom belonged to the Mexican Consulate in the Havana, when false documents were issued in the month of May of last year, with the view of enabling the slave-vessel the "*Mariana*" to sail under Mexican colours, an act which Señor Oropeza, the District Judge of the State of Vera Cruz, in the sentence he gave, declared to be a fraudulent act, and compromising the

honour of the Mexican nation. In acknowledging the receipt of the answer to that note, which the Undersigned has had the honour to receive from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla of yesterday's date, he must express his regret that, considering the time which has passed since the act in question was committed, he is not enabled to forward information of a more satisfactory nature to Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 254.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Mexico, April 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of two despatches and their inclosures from Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels, mentioning the fact of a vessel found abandoned at sea having been taken into the Island of Cozumel, and which vessel is supposed to have been employed in the Slave Trade. Mr. Shiels states, that the Isla de Mugerres lying to the north of Yucatan, and within a very short distance of the Island of Cuba, has been allowed to become a fishing establishment, through a grant made by the Governor of that State to certain Spanish subjects, and he expresses his conviction that this grant has been made use of for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade with greater facility between the Isla de Mugerres and the Island of Cuba. Your Lordship will perceive by the inclosed note which I addressed to Señor Bonilla that I have called his attention to this point, expressing my conviction that the grant, if not properly made, will be rescinded, and that such also will be the case should it be proved that the suspicions entertained be correct. I have also forwarded copies of the despatches I received from Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels to Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Havana, stating to him also that I thought a visit made by any of Her Majesty's cruisers to the Isla de Mugerres might be the means of procuring much information on this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 254.

Vice-Consul Shiels to Consul Giffard.

Sir,

Laguna de Terminos, March 14, 1854.

IT having been reported here that a vessel supposed to be an African slaver has been lately fallen in with by some fishermen in the vicinity of the Island of Cozumel, in an abandoned condition, but with every appearance of having disembarked a cargo of slaves, I addressed a note on the 28th ultimo to the Governor of the territory (copy of which is inclosed), requesting him to investigate the matter, and received his answer dated 2nd instant, accompanying the declaration of the person who raised the report here (copy also inclosed). Although nothing has transpired from the steps taken, as regards a certainty of the vessel being a slaver, still I am inclined to believe that such is really the case, as it is so reported from sundry parts of the coast by persons trading in canoes who assure me that slave ships direct from Africa, with cargoes of slaves, are in the habit of calling off Isla Mugerres, where they have Spanish agents who assist them to land their cargoes in Cuba, by disembarking the slaves into Spanish coasting craft, ready in waiting for that purpose. On effecting this, they burn, bilge, or otherwise destroy the ship which originally brought the slaves from Africa and thereby elude the vigilance of her Majesty's cruisers off the Island of Cuba. On communicating this report to Her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Mexico, please have the goodness to state also that permission was given by the state authorities of Yucatan in 1848, to certain Spanish subjects in Cuba

to occupy Isla Mugerres as a fishing establishment, as will be observed by the copy of the Decree which I also inclose. No doubt exists in my mind that this permission is made use of by the slave-merchants to land their negroes in Cuba, in the manner before stated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. B. SHIELS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 254.

Vice-Consul Shiels to the Governor of the Island of Carmen.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Laguna de Terminos, February 28, 1854.

HAVING learnt, by a lately arrived canoe called the "Lucia," coming from Rio Lagartos, that her master has said a brig abandoned at sea had been met with on the coast of the Island of Cozumel, which brig it is supposed has been dismantled, after having brought and discharged a ship load of slaves, which have afterwards been taken to the Island of Cuba, I have the honour to address you with the object of begging you will have the goodness to cause the truth of this statement to be investigated; and it will be my duty to apprise Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico of it, so that proper measures may be taken to prevent slave-vessels from disembarking their slaves within the waters of the Republic.

I flatter myself that you will take interest in ascertaining the truth of these statements, and that you will have the goodness to inform me of the result—thus cooperating in the suppression of the illegal Slave Trade which, it would appear, is carried on in the islands adjacent to the coast of Yucatan.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. B. SHIELS.

Inclosure 3 in No. 254.

The Governor of the Island of Carmen to Vice-Consul Shiels.

(Translation.)

Government House, March 2, 1854.

I FORWARD to you the declaration of Ponciano Villa Nuera, master of the canoe "Lucia," respecting the vessel said to be abandoned off Cozumel, and to have been employed in the Slave Trade, which declaration was received by order of this Government, and in accordance with the wish expressed in your official note of the 28th ultimo.

(Signed) THOMAS MARIN.

In the Town of Carmen, on the 1st March, 1854, the Captain of the port, Don Juan Lara Bonifaz, had brought before him the citizen, Ponciano Villa Nueva, master of the canoe "Lucia," proceeding from Rio Lagartos, who before me, notary, was legally sworn to the truth, and having been questioned respecting what he knew of a vessel said to be anchored in Cozumel, he said as follows:—That on passing by Rio Lagartos the master José Osorio, inhabitant of the port of Felchae, had told them that the fishermen had seen at sea a dismantled vessel, and that having boarded her, they found nothing either dead or living in her, and had towed her into port. That, accordingly, the Magistrate of that port was going to institute inquiries, but as Osorio had returned to Felchae he knew nothing more of what had happened, and that this is all he knew of the matter

This declaration was then read to him, and being asked whether he ratified it, or whether he wished anything to be added or omitted, he said that the declaration then read to him, might be signed and ratified, as containing the truth; that he had nothing to add or to suppress, and would sign it jointly with the authorities and me, notary.

(Signed)

JUAN LARA BONIFAZ.
PONCIANO VILLA NUEVA.
VICTOR REUDON.

Inclosure 4 in No. 254.

Decree of June 21, 1848, granting Permission to Fish on the Coasts of the Peninsula to Spanish Vessels.

MIGUEL BARBACHAM, Governor of the State of Yucatan, to its inhabitants:—Know ye that it being good for the country to encourage the fisheries, which have been hitherto neglected for want of enterprise, and some Cuban capitalists having offered to undertake them, and corresponding advantages being likely to accrue therefrom to the State; in the use of the powers conferred upon me by the decree of the 14th January of the present year, and after hearing the opinion of the Council of State, I have been pleased to decree as follows:—

Article I. Permission is granted to Spanish vessels to fish on the coasts of this peninsula and of the adjacent islands, on the north and east side of the coast, and they may establish on the coasts the buildings necessary for salting the fish.

Art. II. Spanish vessels that, with this sole object, arrive off our coasts, shall have all the assistance they may require, just as if they were national vessels, and they may buy whatever they may require, and sell or barter their fish.

Art. III. These concessions do not include the right of settling on the private properties of the proprietors on the coast.

Inclosure 5 in No. 254.

Vice-Consul Shiels to Consul Giffard.

Sir,

Laguna de Terminos, February 16, 1854.

WITH an inclosure from Mr. Doyle, I had the pleasure to receive on 13th instant your despatch of 20th February last, and pursuant to its contents I have written to Merida and Campeachy requesting my correspondents there to furnish me with any information to be procured respecting the shipment of Indians to Cuba.

It has been currently reported here that the cholera, so prevalent throughout the State last year, and which has committed such fearful ravages in the interior, was introduced into the country through an escort of troops sent from Valladolid with a body of Indians to be embarked at Ascension Bay on board of a Spanish vessel for Cuba, who slept on board the same, and on their return carried the disease into the interior. It appears these poor wretches were prisoners of war, smuggled out of the State, with the assistance of a military force, to be sold in the Cuba market; and that for some time past this has been an every day occurrence. From what I can learn, the kidnapped Indians are generally sent from the interior, where the Indian warfare is kept up, to a distant part of the coast where there are no civil authorities who dare interfere, and are shipped thence to Cuba in Spanish coasting craft, in the same manner as is practised with negro slaves disembarked from Guineamen in the vicinity of the islands adjacent to the Yucatan coast.

It is my opinion that this Trade can only be put a stop to by vessels of war of a light draught of water, which can approach as close to the shoals as the Spanish coasters can, and would soon put an end to the nefarious Traffic. I doubt if even one tenth of the Indians sent from Yucatan will ever be legally

shipped from a port of entry, so great are the facilities for shipping them from by-places on the coast, although the Spanish coasters, through agents at Manilla, can always be provided with regular papers as a cloak against detention or capture.

The contents of the present communication, although collected from report, and partly being my own opinions on the subject, may afford Mr. Doyle, for whose information it is written, some insight into the manner in which the Indians are conveyed to Cuba, and may assist him in providing means to effectually put a stop to it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) GEO. B. SHIELS.

Inclosure 6 in No. 254.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, March 29, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, a copy of the only terms upon which Don Tito Vecino would be permitted to enter into contracts with the Indians in Yucatan for the purpose of sending them as free labourers to the Island of Cuba. As the Undersigned is aware of the philanthropic sentiments of the present Administration of this country, and of the personal determination of Señor Bonilla to put an end to slavery under whatever form it may present itself, he loses no time in laying before his Excellency the inclosed interesting information which he has received on this subject, by which his Excellency will see the manner in which the philanthropic views of the General Government are likely to be frustrated should the statements made to the Undersigned be founded on fact, and the Undersigned does not for a moment doubt that the strictest investigation will be made without loss of time into this matter, involving, as it does, the fate of so many unhappy human beings living under the protection of this Government. The Undersigned has received a despatch also from Mr. Shiels, British Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, in which he states the fact of a vessel abandoned at sea, having been taken into the Island of Cozumel, and which there was every reason to believe had been employed in the Slave Trade. Mr. Shiels states, that the information he received was given him by persons trading in canoes along the coast, who assured him that slave-ships, direct from Africa, are in the habit of calling off the Isla de Mugerres, where, with the aid of Spanish agents, the slaves are transhipped into Spanish coasting craft ready in waiting for such a purpose; on effecting which, they burn, sink, or otherwise destroy, the ships which originally brought the slaves from Africa, and so elude the vigilance of the British cruisers off the Island of Cuba. Mr. Shiels also states, that in 1848, the State authorities of Yucatan issued the inclosed Decree, granting the right to certain Spanish subjects in Cuba to occupy the Isla de Mugerres as a fishing station; and he expresses his conviction that this permission has been made use of also by the slave-merchants to land their negroes in Cuba in the manner before stated. The Undersigned does not understand how such a grant could have been made by the State authorities unless under the sanction of the Supreme Government, in whose province it clearly lies to grant or refuse such authority, be the Government of the country federal or central in its character; but should such an authority have been granted, the Undersigned feels assured, placing the faith he does in the opinions on this subject which he knows are held by his Excellency Señor Bonilla, that his Excellency will allow no time to be lost in ascertaining the truth of the reports made to the Undersigned, and that he will withdraw the grant made to the Spanish subjects in question, if it has been illegally made, and that he will do so also if it be shown that it has already tended, or can in any way be made available for the continuance of the infamous Traffic in Slaves still carried on in the Island of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 255.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo,* inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed on the 23rd of March to the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting to be informed what steps had been taken by the Mexican Government to inquire into the conduct of Señor Vivo, who was Mexican Consul at Havana in May 1853, when Mexican papers were granted to the slaver "*Mariana*," alias "*Lady Suffolk*."

And with reference to the unsatisfactory reply which you received to that note, I have to instruct you to renew your application to Señor Bonilla on this subject, in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

You will state that the long period of time which has so unaccountably been suffered to elapse since the transaction in question took place, cannot relieve his Excellency from the promise made by him, that a full and searching inquiry should be made into a case so flagrant in itself, and so pernicious as an example if suffered to remain without notice by the Mexican Government.

Should this application fail, you will take an opportunity to bring the whole matter before the President as one affecting the honour of Mexico; and you will request that his Highness will order the inquiry that Her Majesty's Government have in vain endeavoured to obtain from his Minister.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 256.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo,† inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed, on the 29th of March, to Señor Bonilla, in consequence of information which you had received from the British Vice-Consul at Laguna de Terminos, that a slaver had been found abandoned off the Island of Cozumel, and that the Spanish slave-dealers are in the habit of availing themselves of permission given to certain Spanish subjects by the Governor of Yucatan to use the Isla de Mugerres as a fishing establishment, in order to make use of that island as a slave-trading station.

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

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 257.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Mexico, May 3, 1854.

BY the last packet I received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Havana, inclosing me a copy of the "*Ordenanza*" published by the present Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, laying down the terms upon which free labourers could only be admitted into the Island of Cuba, by which are annulled the stipulations made by this Government with Señor Vecino, referred to in my despatch of the 4th of March. I took an early opportunity of reading Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatch to his Excellency Señor Bonilla, and recommended that no time should be lost in making known to the Indians in Yucatan, through the local authorities, the fact that the contracts proposed by Señor Vecino could no longer be carried into

* No. 253.

† No. 254.

effect, and his Excellency has since assured me that orders have been sent to that effect; but he called to my attention a mistake evidently entertained by Mr. Crawford, namely, that the privilege granted to M. Vecino was an exclusive one, such not being the case, because any one is at liberty to contract Indians as free labourers on the same terms. An exclusive privilege had been demanded by a M. Linardi for a commercial house in the Havana, with an offer of giving 30,000 or 50,000 dollars for it; but this offer was refused by Señor Bonilla, on the ground that it might be made the means of carrying on the Slave Trade in a disguised form. The line this Government wishes to adopt, is to prevent by every means in its power any abuse of authority which would tend to place the Yucatan Indians in a state of slavery, as it cannot prevent their seeking their livelihood in the manner they consider to be most profitable to themselves. I have written on this subject to Mr. Consul-General Crawford.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 258.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 5.)

My Lord,

Mexico, May 3, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, translations of a note and its inclosures which I have received from his Excellency Señor Bonilla, in answer to the one I addressed to his Excellency, and a copy of which was transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 2nd ultimo,* respecting the manner I was informed by Mr. Vice-Consul Shiels that the Indian prisoners were sent to the Island of Cuba, and the Isla de Mugerés made a deposit for slaves for the same island. I have also the honour to forward copies and translations of a communication I received from his Excellency Señor Bonilla, transmitting some correspondence which had taken place between the Mexican Minister in Washington and the American Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, respecting four boys born in the Peninsula of Yucatan, who are supposed to be kept in a state of slavery in New Orleans.

Your Lordship will perceive that Mr. Marcy alludes to the contract lately made by M. Vecino for importing free labourers into the Island of Cuba. Señor Bonilla has directed the same answer to be given to him as was given to me, and which I have already had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 258.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, April 7, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive his Excellency Mr. Doyle's note of the 29th ultimo, inclosing a document which shows in what manner the benevolent views of the Mexican Government may be frustrated with respect to the aborigines of Yucatan whom Don Tito Vecino had contracted to take to Cuba; and his Excellency acquaints the Undersigned with the intelligence he has received of a vessel abandoned at sea, that was picked up off the coast of Cozumel, with all the appearances of having been employed in the Slave Trade; and with reference to this his Excellency Mr. Doyle alludes to slave-ships coming from Africa, and arriving at the Island of Mugerés, where they transship the slaves which they bring to Spanish coasting-vessels, after which they burn or otherwise destroy the said ships, and escape the vigilance of the British cruisers off the Island of Cuba.

* No. 254.

His Supreme Highness the President of the Republic has been informed of these particulars, and desires the Undersigned to assure his Excellency Mr. Doyle that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty may be satisfied that, with reference to the above circumstances, no effort will be omitted by the Government of the Republic to comply with the spirit of the Treaty existing between Mexico and Great Britain, for the abolition of slavery. A proof of this is given in the orders issued by the Minister at War to the Commandant-General of Marine of the Northern Department, and which were given before the receipt of his Excellency's note, which the Undersigned is now answering, respecting the vessel alluded to as having been found abandoned at sea, near Cozumel, copy of which order is herewith inclosed to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, to whom the Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 258.

The Minister of War to Señor Bonilla.

(Translation.)

*Department of War and Marine, 3rd Section,
City of Bravos, April 2, 1854.*

Excellent Sir,

WITH this day's date I inform the Commandant-General of Marine of the Northern Department, Captain D. Luis Valle, as follows: "His Supreme Highness the President having been informed of your despatch No. 77, and of its inclosures, respecting a schooner found stranded on the Island of Cozumel off the Peninsula of Yucatan, and which, according to the account given by the Captain of the Port of Sisal, Don José de la Cuesta, 2nd Lieutenant in the Navy, appears to have been employed in the Slave Trade, his Highness orders me to direct you to send immediately to that spot one of the national men-of-war, with men from the arsenal, who will burn the said schooner, stripping her first of her copper, and of everything worth taking, which being collected with her goods now in possession of the neighbouring people, is to be taken to that port, and put under the care of the judge who is to investigate the case, in consequence of the schooner having been declared a slaver.

"The Commandant of the Marine Department will give the necessary instructions to the officer in command of the ship destined for this service; and when he returns you will communicate to the Judge the particulars which will have been learnt about the case, so that with the promptness required by the Treaty celebrated between Mexico and Great Britain on the 24th of February of 1841, and subsequently amplified, sentence may be awarded according to the stipulations of that agreement, and of the Law of the 8th of August, 1851.

"You will communicate this order to the Captain of the Port of Sisal; and I return the papers in original which he inclosed to me, so that they may serve in court."

(Signed) BLANCO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 258.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

Mexico, April 12, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary, copy of a communication addressed by the Minister from this country to the Secretary of State of the United States, and also of his answer, by which his Excellency Mr. Doyle will learn what has happened to 6 Yucatan boys in the neighbourhood of Campeachy, how they were met with in the United States, what steps had been taken in the case, and how it at present stands, as well as the hopes

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entertained by the Undersigned that the said youths will be sent back to their own country.

In communicating to his Excellency copy of the abovementioned correspondence, for the information of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, which has shown such anxiety for the suppression of the Slave Trade, the Undersigned avails himself, &c.

(Signed) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 258.

General Almonte to Mr. Marcy.

(Translation.)

Washington, March 7, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Mexican Republic, has the honour to transmit to the Honourable William L. Marcy, Secretary of State of the United States of America, copy of a letter from the Honourable Daniel Mace, Member of Congress for the State of Indiana, respecting an occurrence which the Undersigned has no doubt will profoundly affect the benevolent feelings of the Honourable Mr. Marcy.

Six Mexican children were stolen in Campeachy by French pirates, who kept them in servitude for four years; they then sold them to an American merchant-vessel, where they remained two years, and were finally sold in the market of New Orleans. This occurrence, if proved true, is so monstrous, so iniquitous, and so contrary to all laws, both human and Divine, that the Undersigned feels certain the enlightened Government of the United States will do their best to clear up the truth, and to send back these unfortunate youths, so inhumanly treated, to their afflicted families.

One of these boys, thanks to the generous protection of some American gentlemen, and to the kindness of the Honourable Mr. Mace, has arrived in this city, and the Undersigned, as in sacred duty bound, has taken him under the protection of this Legation till the pitiful story which he tells of his sufferings has been investigated. If it turn out true, it can hardly be doubted but that his restoration to liberty has been providential, so that the inhuman dealers in human flesh who are implicated in this extraordinary case may be duly punished.

The Undersigned intends to investigate, in the most formal manner, the truth of these occurrences, and the residence of the other five youths, for the purpose of freeing them, and to obtain the punishment of those who deliberately and knowingly have been implicated in their purchase and sale, and to claim from them all the expenses incurred till the children are restored to their families. The best way of accomplishing all this is to send the youth, now in this city, to New Orleans, to enable the Mexican Consul-General there resident to examine the case; but as, from his youthfulness, to send him there alone would expose him to the chance of his titular master seizing him again, and committing a fresh offence, the Undersigned begs the Honourable Secretary to send a civil officer of the United States Government (such a one as the Secretary of State might think fit) to accompany the said boy to the City of New Orleans, and give him up to the Mexican Consul-General, placing him likewise under the protection of the United States authorities, so as to prevent his being again made a slave of, while the truth of the story of his life is being examined into.

The Undersigned would likewise be much pleased if the authorities were told to assist the Mexican Consul in finding out the residence of the other five youths, and in extricating them from the unjust slavery they are in. The Honourable Secretary of State must feel how important it is that this business shall be settled as soon as possible, and he therefore begs him to let the Undersigned know what decision he has come to as soon as possible.

(Signed) JUAN N. ALMONTE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 258.

Mr. Marcy to General Almonte.

*Department of State, Washington,
March 10, 1854.*

(Translation.)

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note of General Almonte of the 7th instant, respecting the young Mexican who is under the protection of the Mexican Legation, and who is said to have been kidnapped by some French pirates on the coast of Yucatan. The Undersigned, in answer, has to inform General Almonte that he has adopted the suggestion of sending a Government official with the young man to New Orleans, who will deliver him up to the Mexican Consul-General; and that Mr. William F. Osborne, an officer of this Department, is ready to start with this object. A copy of General Almonte's note will also be sent to the Attorney-General of the United States in the eastern part of Louisiana, with orders to afford the Mexican Consul-General all the assistance in his power to investigate into the truth of the young man's declaration, to protect him in every way till he embarks for Mexico, and to proceed against all the transgressors of the United States laws who may have taken part in bringing this youth and his companions to this country.

As in some way connected with this subject, the Undersigned takes the liberty of informing General Almonte that he has received information from persons entitled to credit that the Government of Mexico has made an agreement with a Company in the Havana, ceding to it the privilege of exporting, for five years, Yucatan Indians to be employed in the Island of Cuba as apprentices or free labourers. It is presumed that the Mexican Minister will not object to the Undersigned obtaining from him all the information he can grant upon this subject. He sincerely hopes that the result of this inquiry will satisfy him that the information he has received is incorrect. Nevertheless, if, against his hopes, it would appear that this new and extraordinary policy had been, or was to be, adopted by the Mexican Government, the Undersigned would consider it his duty to offer to that Government reasons for abandoning such a policy—reasons which, he hopes, would be sufficient for that purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WILLIAM L. MARCY.

No. 259.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 4, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo,* reporting that you had received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, a copy of an Ordenanza issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, the provisions of which would invalidate the terms of the contract under which Señor Vecino had engaged to introduce Yucatan Indians into that island as free labourers, and that the Mexican Government had consequently, on your representation, given directions that all Yucatan Indians intending to emigrate to Cuba, should be warned to that effect.

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

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 257.

No. 260.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 29, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information printed copies of Decrees* respecting slavery in Cuba which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last. I also transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing a copy of a despatch from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he gives his opinion as to the manner in which those Decrees may operate to the prejudice of colonists repairing to Cuba from Yucatan; and I have to instruct you to inquire into this matter, and report to me whether the Decree in question will have the practical operation apprehended by Mr. Wodehouse, and whether you consider it likely that the Blancos of Yucatan will avail themselves of the opportunity to establish such a Slave Trade as is described by that gentleman.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 260.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.

Sir,

Downing Street, September 20, 1854.

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th June last, forwarding printed copies of Decrees of the Spanish Government respecting slavery in Cuba, I am directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, the copy of a despatch which has been received upon the subject from the Governor of British Guiana.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES ELLIOT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 260.

Mr. Wodehouse to Sir George Grey.

Sir,

Government House, George Town, August 5, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your despatch of the 26th June last, forwarding three Decrees of the Queen of Spain upon the subject of slavery in Cuba.

2. There is not in these papers anything having especial reference to British Guiana, but they bear so prominently upon a territory immediately adjoining British Honduras, where I was last employed, and are so closely connected with matters which there came under my immediate notice, that I trust I shall not be taking too great a liberty in offering a few remarks for your consideration, even at the risk of stating circumstances already within your knowledge.

3. The main object of the second of these Decrees is the introduction of what are termed "colonists" from different places, among others from Yucatan; and it is impossible not to perceive, that if the regulations receive the unreserved approval of the British Government, and the introduction of Yucatecos into Cuba is to be permitted to take place without interference or surveillance on our part, a new and recognised Slave Trade will at once spring into active existence.

4. Before remarking on the provisions of the Spanish Decrees, I will bring briefly to your notice some peculiarities of the present political and social condition of Mexico, or at least of its province of Yucatan. The constitution of the Mexican Republic affects to repudiate slavery altogether; but practically it is in full operation, as regards the mutual relations of the

* Inclosures in No. 384.

Blancos or Spaniards, and the Indians inhabiting the State. The Spaniards have generally contrived to get the Indians into debt to them, and they have established a law, that an Indian indebted to a Spaniard must work for him until the debt is liquidated. During this servitude the Spaniard provides him with food and clothing for payment, and as he fixes the prices and also keeps the account, it is not very surprising that the Indian during his whole life is never able to redeem himself from bondage. Nor does the obligation cease here, but the children are compelled to take up the debt of their father. The oppressive operation of this law and other cruelties exercised by the Spaniards, brought about, some years since, a revolt of the Indians, which the former have never been able to subdue, and which has grown into a civil war, characterized by much ferocity on both sides. They have lately attempted to make peace, but both really desire nothing less than the extirmination of their rivals; and the correspondence in the Colonial Office will show that the Spanish authorities have more than once exported Indians forcibly to Cuba.

5. It is only too evident that where such feelings exist between the Government and the inhabitants of the country from which the colonists are to be sent to Cuba, the Decree of the Queen of Spain affords no sort of protection or guarantee against fraud and violence of every description. It is not in the smallest degree probable that a Spanish Yucateco will emigrate to Cuba on such terms. The emigrants will all be Indians; a fact of which I believe the Government of the Queen of Spain to have been perfectly aware. The Vth Article of the second decree provides that the contracts are to be in the language of the colonist and *visé* by the Spanish Consul; but the Indians are most illiterate, and would rarely be able, even if they were allowed an opportunity, to read the agreements. With contracts made under such circumstances, and with Cuban authorities to determine all questions arising upon them between the colonists and their employers, what is there to prevent the revivification, as it were, of slavery under this Decree, more especially under the XIXth and five following Articles of it? The Decree appears to be silent as to any limitation of the period for which these contracts may remain in force, but we may fairly presume that they are to be of a very extended character, from the fact that the XXIIInd Article, as a great boon, releases a child born during his mother's contract from its operation on completing eighteen years of age, although the mother may remain in a state of bondage.

6. There are many other Articles in this Decree which, in the absence of *bonâ fide* protection, at least at the time of the execution of the contracts, must reduce the colonists to a state of slavery. Her Majesty's Government will I have no doubt readily perceive the bearing of them: but at the same time I trust you will pardon my having troubled you with these observations upon the Decrees of which you were good enough to place me in possession.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. WODEHOUSE.

No. 261.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 16.)

My Lord,

Mexico, September 2, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions which I had the honour to receive from your Lordship in your despatch of 17th of last May, I addressed the note a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling upon his Excellency to inform me what had been the result of the investigation made into the conduct of M. Vivo, now Mexican Minister in Madrid, but who was Consul of this Republic in the Havana, when the noted slaver the "*Lady Suffolk*" was given Mexican papers to sail from thence, under the name of the "*Mariana*," to Laguna de Terminos.

Your Lordship will perceive how little satisfactory this answer ought to have been considered by this Government, and that Señor Vivo again throws

all the blame of what took place on Señor Soler, who he again declares was in charge of the Consulate when this affair took place ; although there is no doubt that Señor Vivo was in the Island of Cuba at that time.

His explanation of the non-appearance of certain documents is very lame ; but I doubt, notwithstanding my efforts, whether any further satisfaction will be obtained, although the judge of the district court at Vera Cruz declared that the honour of the country demanded that the conduct of the *employés* in the Mexican Consulate in the Havana should be strictly investigated.

I have considered it my duty to forward this despatch under flying seal to Mr. Consul-General Crawford at the Havana ; as, being on the spot, he can give your Lordship further information respecting what took place in this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 261.

Señor Vivo to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Excellent Sir,

Mexican Legation, Madrid, October 23, 1853.

IN answer to the despatch of your Excellency dated 1st September last, by which you instruct me, in conformity with the commands of his Excellency the President, to give to the Department of Foreign Affairs, with all its circumstances, an account of what took place at the Havana relative to giving the flag ("el abanderamiento") to the ship "*Mary*," this order originating, as your Excellency says, in the information given by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in the Republic, accusing that ship of being engaged, or having been engaged, in the Slave Trade; I have to state, that from the information I had previously received on the subject, and that which according to your Excellency's orders I have obtained from the attaché to this Legation, Don Joaquin Soler, and the details he gave me about the matter, the circumstances of the case in question are as follows :—

In the first days of the month of May this year, being myself absent from the Havana, and Don Joaquin Soler having remained in charge, *ad interim*, of the Consulate, Captain William Smith and Don Juan Gutierrez came to him stating that the first named of them had sold to the other, attorney of Don Juan Ruiz, a Mexican subject, the American barque "*Mary*," as declared in the official note which, on that very day, the Mexican Consulate had received from that of the United States, and, in conformity, he requested that the contract of sale should at once be made out according to law. The parties having explicitly stated their wishes, having been sufficiently identified and ascertained to be, the first, attorney of Mr. Henry West of Boston, whose power, fully certified by his respective Consul, was examined and returned by that of Mexico, Don Joaquin Soler, and the second representative of Don Juan Ruiz, in virtue of the power legally delivered by the latter, and which was also duly examined and returned. The contracting parties being agreed as to the conditions of the purchase and sale of the said ship, nothing else to do was left to the Consul but to legalise the contract, a formality which he accordingly performed, as is proved by the copies that your Excellency has sent me.

After this, Don Juan Gutierrez, captain of the ship, which had changed its name to that of "*Mariana*," presented a demand, to the effect of obtaining for the ship under his command, an act of naturalization, Don Juan Ruiz, the real and legitimate owner of it, and in whose name, as has been seen, the ship was bought by Don Juan Gutierrez, being a citizen of the Republic. In conformity with the laws, the Consul having required the corresponding sureties, and Dr. Valentin Corrujos, a merchant of the Havana, having become such for the sum, and in accordance with the terms required by law, a provisional letter patent was delivered to authorize the said ship to sail under Mexican colours, and with that flag it left the port of Cienfuegos, where it had been at anchor, for the Laguna of Terminos.

This is, Excellent Sir, the succinct narration of the facts such as have been stated to me by Don Joaquin Soler, and which are in accordance, from what

I have seen, with the documents, the copies of which I was referred to. In the communications of the present Consul at the Havana, directed to the Department under the charge of your Excellency, as also in those addressed to the Consul-General of Her Britannic Majesty in Cuba, I think I perceive a feeling of alarm, which, in my opinion, is to a very great extent unfounded, since it has no other basis probably but a momentary loss, and certainly a mistake. The first is, that the official note addressed by the Consul of the United States in the Havana to our own Consul, informing him of the articles agreed on previous to the purchase between Don Juan Gutierrez and Captain Smith, had not been found in the archives. The said note must certainly exist in the archives of the Consulate. The second is the reflection which accords with that of the Consul of Her Britannic Majesty, that the confirmation of the power of attorney of Captain Smith was not included in the power given by West, but inserted in a separate document; therefore, your Excellency will perceive at once, that that document never having been in existence, could not be found by our Consul, nor a copy sent to that of Her Britannic Majesty.

Your Excellency, who is so well versed in all matters concerning the practice of the law, knows better than I do, that the confirmation of the powers given is inserted in one and the same document which confers them, and that once this document having been examined, read, and returned by M. Soler, it is evident that no other proof of the authority given could be found in the Consulate at the Havana, except by the tenour of the public act of the 13th of May.

I ought, perhaps, to have limited myself to a simple narration of the facts to your Excellency, as I have been requested to do, but I thought it proper to add the observations which precede, as, in my opinion, they will help to make the facts clear, and satisfy the anxiety of our Consul, Don Ramon Carballo. This is all I have to say to your Excellency in answer to the abovementioned note, having, &c.

(Signed) BONAVENTURA VIVO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 261.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, July 19, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to forward to Her Majesty's Government copies of the correspondence which had passed between his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla and himself with respect to the charges brought against Señor Vivo and Señor Soler by the Judge of the District Court of Vera Cruz, in the sentence pronounced by him, on the 23rd of October, 1853, in the case of the slave-vessel called the "*Mariana*."

In that sentence the Judge called the attention of the Supreme Government to what he stated to be a fraudulent act committed by the persons in charge of the Mexican Consulate in the Havana in issuing false papers, compromising thereby the honour of the Mexican nation.

In a note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency on the 24th of last November, he at that time brought before the attention of his Excellency the fact that, although the false papers in question had been signed in the Havana by Don Joaquin Soler, on the 13th of May, 1853, still Señor Vivo, who was at that time Mexican Consul in the Havana, was at that moment there, as he reached the Island of Cuba on the 9th of that month, and only made over the archives of the Consulate to his successor on the 17th, when he took his departure for Madrid to place himself at the head of the Mexican Legation in that capital, to which Legation Señor Soler is also attached.

The Undersigned transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the assurances so repeatedly given him by his Excellency Señor Bonilla, that the conduct of these two persons, holding as they do high offices under this Government, should be strictly examined into, tending as it did to compromise the honour of

this country, and that such a matter would not be lightly dealt with, he has now the honour to inform his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla that he has received fresh instructions from Her Majesty's Government to bring before the earnest attention of his Excellency this matter, and to state that the long period of time which has been so unaccountably suffered to elapse since the transaction in question took place, without any explanation being afforded by those persons, cannot but appear extraordinary to Her Majesty's Government, as they cannot for a moment suppose that the promise given by his Excellency Señor Bonilla will not be strictly adhered to—namely, that a full and searching inquiry should be made into a transaction so flagrant in itself, and so pernicious as an example, if suffered to remain without notice being taken of it by the Mexican Government.

The Undersigned has therefore the honour to request that his Excellency Señor Bonilla will be good enough to inform him whether any explanation has been afforded on this matter, so that he may communicate it, in obedience to the instructions he has lately received, to Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 261.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

National Palace, Mexico, July 27, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to receive the note of his Excellency Percy William Doyle, which he was pleased to address him on the 19th instant, in which he states that it has appeared strange to his Government that the Government of Mexico has not proceeded in the investigation which it promised concerning the charges that are brought against Messrs. Vivo and Soler on the subject of the flag of the frigate "*Mariana*," which was occupied in the Slave Trade, the said note of his Excellency asking if the gentlemen in question had given any explanation with respect to this, that he might forward it to Her Majesty's Government.

In reply, the Undersigned incloses with this note copy of one which M. Vivo, the present Envoy Extraordinary in Madrid, has been pleased to address on the 23rd of October of last year, giving him the information which he asked since the 1st of October last, and which document proves that the Government of the Undersigned has not omitted to demand proper explanations from this functionary and M. Soler concerning the business which it relates to.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

No. 262.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 31, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd of September, inclosing a copy of M. Vivo's explanation respecting the conduct of his nephew, M. Soler, and of himself, in the matter of the sailing papers granted to the slaver "*Lady Suffolk*," at the Mexican Consulate in Cuba, on the 13th of May, 1853. I have also received Mr. Crawford's report upon the contents of M. Vivo's explanation.

I observe that M. Vivo's answer to the charges brought against him and M. Soler is dated so far back as the 23rd of October, 1853, and that it must have been received by the Mexican Government in December last. That answer is obviously incomplete and unsatisfactory with regard to some

material points in the inquiry as to M. Vivo's conduct in this transaction, and I therefore presume that the Mexican Government must have required from that gentleman, and received from him, some further explanation thereupon.

In the first place, it was important that M. Vivo should explain why M. Soler was acting as Consul, *ad interim*, for Mexico, at the time when the sailing papers were granted to the vessel in question.

Upon this point M. Vivo says, in his letter of October, 1853, that, as he was absent during the first days of May 1853, M. Soler acted as Consul *ad interim*; but it is clear that this statement does not contain the whole truth, and M. Bonilla must have been aware that, although M. Vivo was absent from Cuba up to the 9th of May, yet he arrived there on that day, and remained at Havana till the 16th of May, and consequently that he was present in Cuba on the 13th of that month, which was the day on which the "*Mariana*" was registered as a Mexican vessel at the Mexican Consulate.

2ndly. M. Bonilla cannot have forgotten that, in the letter which M. Vivo's successor, M. Carvallo, addressed to Mr. Crawford on the 28th of July, 1853, and which you communicated officially to M. Bonilla on the 22nd of August, 1853, it is stated that no copy is to be found in the archives of the Mexican Consulate at Havana of any letter communicating to the Mexican Consulate the fact that the master of a vessel called the "*Mary*," of Boston, was authorised to sell that vessel. But with regard to the alleged absence of this important document, M. Vivo states, in his letter of the 23rd of October, 1853, as follows:—"Dicho oficio debe indudablemente hallarse en aquel archivo."

Upon the first of these points it is reasonable to suppose that M. Bonilla must have seen the necessity of again asking M. Vivo how it happened that, he being in Cuba on the 13th of May, his nephew was allowed on that day to issue these important documents to the "*Mariana*." And with regard to the second point, it is to be presumed that M. Bonilla, on receiving M. Vivo's positive assertion that the document in question must be recorded in the Mexican Consulate at Havana, would, without delay, require M. Carvallo again to search his archives, and to state definitively whether or not any such document as the alleged letter of the United States' Consul was to be found therein.

You will therefore officially request the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs to inform you whether, on the receipt of the abovementioned letter from M. Vivo, of October 1853, that gentleman was called upon to furnish further explanations of his conduct, and, if so, you will ask to be supplied with a copy of M. Vivo's reply for communication to Her Majesty's Government.

But it appears further, from the inclosed copy of the report on your despatch of the 2nd September which I have received from Mr. Crawford:—

1. That Captain William Smith and Don Juan Gutierrez, the two persons mentioned by M. Vivo as having presented themselves on the 13th of May, 1853, to M. Soler, at the Mexican Consulate, never did so present themselves.

2. That no such document as the power-of-attorney from Henry West, of Boston, duly legalized by the United States' Consul, was presented to, or seen by, any person at the Mexican Consulate, and that no such document was legalized at the Consulate of the United States.

3. That no such ship as the "*Mary*," of Boston, entered the port of Cienfuegos in the year 1853. And,

4. That whereas M. Vivo asserts that Don Valentin Corujos, merchant, of Havana, gave the security required by Mexican law before the papers were granted to the "*Mariana*," Mr. Crawford states that it might be proved officially that no such person as Don Valentin Corujos now exists in Havana, or has been known to have been established there during the last two years.

I have to instruct you to communicate the above statements to the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to inform his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government expect that the Government of Mexico will, without delay, take the necessary steps in order that the proper judicial authorities of the Republic may institute a searching legal inquiry into the whole of the proceedings of M. Vivo and of M. Soler in this transaction, which, as truly

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stated in the sentence pronounced by the District Judge of Vera Cruz on the 22nd of November, 1853, so closely affects the honour of the Mexican Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 263.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon—(Received December 1.)

My Lord,

Mexico, November 2, 1854.

IN my despatch of the 2nd of last September I had the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy and translation of a note and its inclosure I had received from his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla with respect to the explanation given by Don Buenaventura Vivo, of what had taken place when he was Mexican Consul at the Havana, with regard to Mexican sailing letters having been granted to the vessel called the "*Mariana*," to go to Laguna de Terminos; and I stated that I considered the explanations afforded by Señor Vivo to be so unsatisfactory that I had forwarded my despatch to your Lordship under flying seal to Mr. Consul-General Crawford at the Havana, as from his having been on the spot he might afford further information as to what took place in the matter.

By the last packet, I received from him a copy of his despatch to your Lordship of the 14th of last September; and it so clearly proved the statements advanced by Señor Vivo to be without foundation, that I considered it proper to address to his Excellency Señor Bonilla the note a copy of which I have the honour to inclose herewith, and which I trust may meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure in No. 263.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, October 20, 1854.

AT the same time that the Undersigned, &c., transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the note he had the honour to receive from his Excellency Don M. D. de Bonilla, dated the 27th of last July, inclosing the answer given by Don Buenaventura Vivo to the inquiries made by the Supreme Government of this country, with respect to the issuing the sailing papers for the slave-vessel called the "*Mariana*," but in truth, the "*Lady Suffolk*," the Undersigned forwarded also a copy of that communication to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, and who, from being on the spot, might furnish such further information as the Undersigned felt would be received with gratification by the Supreme Government of this country, zealous as it has ever been that nothing should alter the high position it assumed and has maintained ever since it declared itself independent with respect to the infamous Traffic in Slaves; he therefore begs to communicate to his Excellency Señor Bonilla the remarks made by Mr. Crawford upon the answer sent to his Excellency by Señor Vivo.

Mr. Crawford states, that he has had interviews both with Mr. Savage, who has been for a long time the Chief Clerk of the Consulate of the United States in the Havana, as well as with the Mexican Consul Señor Carvallo, and which have tended fully to confirm the statements already laid before the Mexican Government.

Señor Vivo throws the whole responsibility of this act upon his nephew Señor Soler, who was, he states, Acting Consul at the time of this transaction; but there can be no doubt that Señor Vivo was in the Havana at the time when it took place, although he did not make over the Consulate to

Señor Carvallo until the 16th of May, a week after his arrival in the Island of Cuba, on his way to Spain, giving as an excuse for not having done so sooner, that he had several affairs to regulate. The archives were received by inventory; but neither in the inventory nor amongst the archives are there any of the documents to be found, which are declared to have been therein deposited, and no such papers as those described were ever issued from the American Consulate, tending thereby to prove that no such persons as those described by Señor Vivo as having appeared at the Mexican Consulate, according to Señor Soler's statement, ever made their appearance.

No such document as the power-of-attorney from Henry West of Boston, duly legalized by the American Consul, was ever presented or seen by any body at the Mexican Consulate, nor has any such document ever been legalized at that of the United States; and finally, as has already been proved by the Undersigned in his note to his Excellency Señor Bonilla of the 5th of September, 1853, no such ship as the "*Mary*" of Boston entered the port of Cienfuegos in that year, as was shown by the certificates of the American Consul and the Captain of that port.

Señor Vivo in his present statement has called up a new person, Don Valentin Corujos, said to be a merchant in the Havana, and made to figure as a bondsman upon the issuing of the sailing letter to the "*Lady Suffolk*," alias "*Mary*" of Boston, alias "*Mariana*."

Mr. Crawford considered it his duty to ascertain at the Mexican Consulate whether such a bond is registered in the archives; and it appears that not only there exist no such documents in the Consulate, but notwithstanding the most stringent inquiries, the existence of Don Valentin Corujos as a merchant in the Havana, is entirely unknown to every one who is at all likely to know about him; and it would not be difficult to prove officially, if necessary, that no such person has ever been known to have been established in the Havana during the last two years.

Mr. Crawford further remarks, that at the time when this transaction took place, Señor Soler was a mere youth, and it is hardly to be supposed that, in a transaction of such a nature, he should not have requested the advice of Señor Vivo at that time in the Havana, or that Señor Vivo's attention should not have been attracted by the fact of hardly any of the instructions of the Mexican Government having been complied with, with respect to granting its flag to foreign-built vessels.

The above are the principal observations made by Mr. Crawford in a despatch to Her Majesty's Government, a copy of which he forwarded to the Undersigned, who considers it his duty to lay them before his Excellency Señor Bonilla, who has shown such interest in this matter, and has given to the Undersigned such constant assurances of his determination to clear up by every means in his power the commission of an act which was described by Judge Oropeza in the latter portion of his sentence, when he condemned the "*Mariana*" as a slaver, as a fraudulent act, and to which he called the attention of the Supreme Government, because it compromised the honour of the Mexican nation.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 264.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, December 3, 1854.

A COLONEL JIMENEZ, formerly Aide-de-camp of General Santa Anna, but dismissed from his staff, went to Yucatan, some months since, as the agent of Don Tito Vecino to induce some of the Indians to go to the Havana as colonists, upon the terms granted by this Government to Señor Vecino, and which were transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 2nd of February last.*

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 252.

Having failed entirely in inducing any Indians to accept the terms proposed, Colonel Jimenez came here lately to make some propositions, as agent for the house of Goicouria and Co. of the Havana, with respect to such Indians as had been made prisoners in the war of castes still going on in Yucatan. I was enabled through a private source to ascertain the nature of the propositions made both by Colonel Jimenez and other persons for other commercial houses in the Havana. They were to the following effect:— That they should supply a force armed and equipped, officers and men, at their own expense, amounting to 200 men, to make war against the Indians, keeping for their own purposes all the Indians they could make prisoners, paying for them besides to the Mexican Government at the rate of fifteen dollars a-head. This was the atrocious offer made, but the one which Colonel Jimenez showed my informant as having been accepted by the President and signed by the Minister of War, was as follows:—

That the house of Goicouria and Co. should pay into the Government Treasury 20,000 dollars, in two payments of 10,000 dollars each. That on the payment of the first 10,000 dollars all the prisoners already in the hands of the Government authorities should be made over to Colonel Jimenez; that is to say, such as he considered fit for the labour they were to undergo, and on the payment of the second 10,000 dollars, all such prisoners as had been made since the first payment, were then to be given over at once to them, and for the future all prisoners made during the time the war lasted were equally to be placed at his disposal.

It was stipulated that the privilege thus granted to the house of Goicouria and Co. should not be an exclusive one, but the Indians could only be sent to the Island of Cuba, and not to any other island in the West Indies, and they were to remain for five years in the power of the house of Goicouria and Co., after which time they were to be considered as free, their five years labour being considered as penalty enough for their having risen against the Government of Yucatan.

As soon as I knew of Colonel Jimenez's arrival, I took the necessary measures for finding out what was the precise object of his journey, and having heard vaguely of the nature of the propositions he was about to make to the Government, I lost no time in addressing a note on the subject to Señor Bonilla. I received subsequently a visit from the Colonel, who told me partly what were his plans, but not all of them. I, however, frankly told him that I would resist to the utmost anything in the shape of slavery, however it might be disguised.

The day after his visit I was informed verbally of the real terms agreed upon and signed by the Minister of War; which I wrote down at once and inclose herewith for your Lordship's information.

I immediately went to the Foreign Office and put this paper into Señor Bonilla's hands, telling him what I knew had taken place; and upon his giving me every assurance that he knew nothing of such being the case, as he had not seen the President for two days, I called upon him at once to take the necessary measures for having the contract made with Colonel Jimenez revoked, reading to him, at the same time, some extracts of the correspondence on this very point, which was laid last year before Parliament, adding that Her Majesty's Government would not for a moment tolerate such an arrangement; that the excuse given could not be held to be valid, namely, that if the prisoners were sent to another part of the Republic they would return to Yucatan, because if colonization was the object, they could send them to Lower California or other points of the Republic, from whence it was impossible they could make their way back to Yucatan; but taking prisoners by force, and sending them to a foreign country, to be under foreign masters for a certain number of years, could not be called colonization, and the excuse of their being prisoners of war, would place this country below the level of Africa, because the prisoners sold into a state of slavery there, were not like the Yucatan Indians, who enjoyed all the privileges and rights of citizenship according to the constitution of this country; and I further called to his Excellency's attention the certainty that the unfortunate Indians in question would be held in a state of slavery during the whole of their lives.

Señor Bonilla, after repeating in the most positive manner the assurances he had before given me of his ignorance of any arrangement having been actually made with Colonel Jimenez, requested me to write him a note on the

subject at once, adding that when the question had been discussed in the Council of Ministers, he had told the President that nothing must be done which could be turned into slavery, as he felt assured I should at once protest against every such plan, and his Excellency told me that he would support, and get the majority of his colleagues to support, the representation I intended to make. I at once drew up a note, stating I was aware of what nature the propositions presented were, but that I felt equally certain they would never be accepted by his Excellency. The result has been, that the President has said it would be considered by him as an offence were any one to consider him capable of entering into such a plan, and that every care would be taken that the Treaty between Great Britain and Mexico shall be respected, and no Indians sent to the Island of Cuba against their will. Notwithstanding all that has taken place, I feel certain, that if great care be not taken, the unfortunate Indians will be forced to go to Cuba.

I was instructed by your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of last September, to report whether I considered, from the observations made to Sir George Grey by Mr. Wodehouse, that abuses might be committed under the new law of colonization for the Island of Cuba by the inhabitants of Yucatan. My best answer, perhaps, would be the contents of the present despatch. Were the terms properly carried out, perhaps there might be but little chance of abuse; but as such is little likely to be the case, I quite coincide in the view taken by Mr. Wodehouse of this matter.

As Colonel Jimenez has embarked at Vera Cruz for the Havana, on his way to Yucatan, I have considered it my duty to send this despatch under flying seal to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, so that he may watch the Colonel's proceedings during his stay there, and put himself into communication on this matter with the Mexican Consul, to whom Señor Bonilla has promised me that proper instructions shall be sent.

I shall also inform the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies of the representations I have made against any Indians being forced to go to the Island of Cuba, as intended, so that should such eventually be the case, he may take such measures as he may judge proper for preventing its continuance.

Inclosure 1 in No. 264.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, November 10, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has been informed that plans have been laid before this Government by the agents of a commercial house in the Havana, as well as by other persons, by which it is proposed that all such Indians as may be made prisoners in the war of castes, still unfortunately in existence in the Peninsula of Yucatan, shall be hired out to them, and sent to the Island of Cuba for a certain term of years. The Undersigned is well aware of the extreme jealousy with which the present, as indeed all the Governments of this Republic have viewed any attempt to induce them to waive the high position this country assumed from the first day of its independence, upon the question of the Slave Trade, and the Undersigned has every confidence, from the stringent regulations which were drawn up by his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, under which Don Tito Vecino was allowed to engage colonists to go to the Island of Cuba, that his Excellency will not countenance any attempt virtually to carry on the Slave Trade as it were under the auspices of the present Government, his Excellency will not fail to see at once the great difference between the permission given by him to Señor Vecino to engage such Indians as were willing to go to the Island of Cuba as colonists, from that which the Undersigned has been informed is now sought to be obtained, namely, of sending to that island by force the Indians who may be made prisoners of war, and who, it is to be recollected, enjoy according to the constitution of this country all the rights and privileges of citizenship. The Undersigned feels certain that his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla will see at once the license a grant of such a nature would give, and what abuses could be committed were it sanctioned by this Government. The

Undersigned, therefore, trusts most sincerely that his Excellency will not listen for a moment to a proposition of such a nature; for leaving aside the question of the rights acquired by those Indians of citizenship, according to the constitution of this country, it would tend not only to infringe virtually the Treaty for the abolition of Slave Trade existing between Great Britain and Mexico, but would place this Government in a position which the Undersigned cannot believe they would accept, namely, that of being the first Government of this Republic which has authorised the possibility of the Slave Trade being carried on, for such would be the effect of the arrangement proposed to the Government, however much it may be attempted to be hidden by the persons interested in getting their iniquitous plan carried into execution; but as this is a matter of great importance, the Undersigned has the honour to request his Excellency Señor Bonilla will be good enough to inform him what may be the intentions of the Mexican Government, so that he may communicate them to that of Her Majesty.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 264.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, November 13, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour to address a note to his Excellency Don M. D. de Bonilla on the 10th instant, in consequence of a report having reached him that a plan had been proposed to this Government, to place at the disposal of certain commercial houses in the Havana, such Indians as had been already or should hereafter be made, prisoners in the war of castes, still in existence in the Peninsula of Yucatan, and the Undersigned expressed the certainty he felt that no such proposition would be listened to by the Supreme Government.

Since writing that note the Undersigned has been informed of the terms which it is the desire of the persons interested in this matter should be accepted by the Mexican Government, and they are of such a nature as to render it necessary that the Undersigned should address this further communication to his Excellency Señor Bonilla without loss of time. Those terms are said to be as follows, viz.: That the persons interested will, if the Supreme Government desire it, keep on foot a body of 200 men armed and officered at their expense to make war against the Indians, they having the right to send to the Island of Cuba all the prisoners they might make; and offering, besides to pay the Supreme Government for them, at the rate of fifteen dollars a-head. Should such terms not meet the approbation of the Government, they profess themselves ready to pay down a sum of 20,000 dollars, in two payments; on the payment of the first 10,000 dollars, they are to receive all the prisoners already in the power of the Government, who they may consider fit for the work they are intended for; and on the payment of the second 10,000 dollars, they are to receive all such other prisoners as may have been made subsequently to the payment of the first 10,000, and such as may hereafter be made as long as the war lasts.

These prisoners are to remain in the power of the commercial houses making this contract for the term of five years.

These are the principal terms which the Undersigned understands are to be proposed to the Supreme Government.

The Undersigned will not enter into discussion with respect to them, because he is perfectly certain that the Supreme Government will reject them at once, as they deserve, taking into consideration, as far as Mexico is concerned, that they would break through not only the rights of citizenship enjoyed by those Indians, but this Government would shrink from the imputation to which it might lay itself open, of condemning to a state of slavery, men who, from their unhappy state of ignorance, deserve more than others the paternal care of an enlightened Government; for much as the persons interested may wish to conceal this transaction under the name of colonization, these unfortunate men would be

but slaves, for colonists are not prisoners of war, sent by force to live in a foreign land, under foreign masters, and exiled for a certain term of years.

The Undersigned will only repeat the assurance he feels, that this proposition will be rejected at once; and he feels the more certain that such will be the case, from the fact, that it would virtually be an infringement of the Slave Trade Treaty in existence between this country and Great Britain, by which slavery is declared to be totally and perpetually abolished in every part of the Mexican territory, and that the flag of Mexico shall never be employed in any way to cover the Slave Trade. And this Treaty was signed in 1841, by the same illustrious person, who was then, as he is now, called to rule the destinies of this country, and who has always shown himself so determined an enemy to anything like slavery, in any shape, being attempted to be carried on in this Republic by any Mexican citizen, or out of it under the Mexican flag, to which the Undersigned was a witness lately in the prosecution and condemnation of the noted slaver "*Mariana*."

But as these propositions may reach Her Majesty's Government through the Havana, the Undersigned would feel obliged by his Excellency Señor Bonilla putting it into his power to write about them to his Government, by the packet which will leave Vera Cruz for New Orleans, on the 22nd instant, so as to do away at once with such disagreeable impressions as their having come to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Government may possibly have caused.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 3 in No. 264.

Memorandum of Terms for Yucatan Indians to go to Cuba.

EN vista de las propuestas hechas por el Señor Coronel Jimenez como apoderado de la casa Goicoria y Hermano de la Habana, en que ofrece poner por cuenta de dicha casa una fuerza de 200 hombres equipados, armados y pagados, tropas y oficiales, con objeto de hacer la guerra á los sublevados de Yucatan tomando los prisioneros que podran hacer, y enviarse á la Isla de Cuba, pagando ademas por cada uno de ellos la cantidad de 15 pesos;

S. A. S. se ha servido modificar las propuestas del modo siguiente:

1. Señor Jimenez á nombre de sus poderdantes entregará en las cajas del Estado la cantidad de 20,000 pesos en dos plazos.

2. Hecho el primer pago, se le entregará todos los prisioneros que existen y tengan las condiciones necesarias para el trabajo á que deben destinarse, y despues del segundo plazo, se le seguirán entregando los que hubieron.

3. Este privilegio no es esclusivo á la casa de los Señores Goicoria y Hermano, si no que el Gobierno tendrá la facultad de concederlo á otros, pero si se entiende que solamente esta limitada á la unica Isla de Cuba, escluyendo á las otras antillas.

4. Estos prisioneros quedarán en poder de los Señores Goicoria y Hermano por el espacio de cinco anos, tiempo que S. A. S. considera suficiente para el castigo de su sublevacion, siendo libres Concluido este tiempo.

(Translation.)

WITH reference to the proposals made by Colonel Jimenez, as representative of the House of Goicoria and Brother, of Havana, offering to supply, on account of the said house, a force of 200 men, equipped, armed, and paid, rank and file, for the purpose of making war against the insurgents of Yucatan, taking the prisoners made by them, who are to be sent to the Island of Cuba, on payment of 15 dollars a head for each prisoner;

His Serene Highness has been pleased to modify these proposals as follows:

1. M. Jimenez shall, on behalf of his employers, pay into the Public Treasury the sum of 20,000 dollars in two instalments.

2. On payment of the first instalment all existing prisoners who may be properly qualified for the work in which they are to be employed shall be made over to him; and after payment of the second instalment, the delivery to him of any others in hand shall be continued.

3. This privilege is not granted exclusively to Messrs. Goicoria, but the Government shall be at liberty to grant the same to other persons; it being understood, however, that it is solely available for the Island of Cuba, to the exclusion of the other West India Islands.

4. These prisoners shall belong to Messrs. Goicoria for five years, which period of servitude his Serene Highness considers sufficient for the punishment of their rebellion, they being free on the expiration of that period.

Inclosure 4 in No. 264.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

National Palace, Mexico, December 1, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has received the notes that, under date of the 10th and 13th of last month, his Excellency Percy W. Doyle was pleased to address him in relation to the information he had received of the proposals that the agents of a commercial house at the Havana had made to the Supreme Government, with the view of obtaining permission to carry over to the Island of Cuba, under certain conditions, the Indians of Yucatan who may be made prisoners during the war that is being carried on in that department.

The Undersigned laid the said notes before his Serene Highness the General President, who sees with satisfaction that his Excellency Mr. Doyle considers as an impossibility any kind of protection rendered by the actual Government of the Republic to the Traffic in Slaves, and particularly if it were to be carried on at the expense of the very sons of the Republic; and his Excellency Mr. Doyle does due justice to the supreme head of the State, who would be incapable of carrying on a commerce in Mexicans, selling them as slaves, the mere supposition of which would be a grievous insult on the part of any person who could entertain such a thought, because his Serene Highness has at all times, and under every circumstance, given unequivocal proofs of his humane and philanthropic sentiments, which he would be very loath to belie by giving his acquiescence to a concession that would even allow of the possibility of any of his fellow-citizens being reduced to so sad and lamentable a condition.

For this reason his Serene Highness thinks that both the notes of his Excellency Mr. Doyle ought to be answered by assuring him that the permissions that he may give to transport the Indians of Yucatan to any other part, will never contain clauses or conditions that may possibly be interpreted in such a way as to allow of their being considered as slaves, but, on the contrary, they will be modelled after the terms of the concession granted to Don Tito Vecino, which his Excellency Mr. Doyle considers as a powerful restriction against that abuse.

Upon this understanding, his Excellency Mr. Doyle will see that there has never been the remotest idea on the part of this Government to protect or tolerate a traffic of such an abominable nature as that in any description of mankind, and which is unfortunately carried on with the African race who arrive at the Island of Cuba, and are then sold that they and their posterity may remain perpetually under a strange dominion, just as if they were a herd of cattle, to the horror of humanity and civilization.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

No. 265.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Mexico, December 3, 1854.

I HAD the honour to transmit to your Lordship, in my despatch of the 2nd ultimo, a copy of a note I had addressed to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, proving how unfounded were the statements advanced by Señor Vivo, late Mexican Consul at the Havana, with respect to the false documents given to the master of the "*Mariana*," alias "*Lady Suffolk*," which vessel was condemned as a slaver at Vera Cruz. And I have now the honour to inclose a copy of his Excellency's answer, by which your Lordship will perceive that a copy of my note has been sent to Señor Vivo, in order to make Señor Soler answer the charges brought against him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure in No. 265.

*Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.**Palacio Nacional, Mexico, 6 de Noviembre de 1854.*

EN contestacion á la nota de su Excelencia el Señor Doyle fecha 26 de Octubre proximo pasado, relativa á la conducta observada por el Consul Mexicano en la Havana con motivo del abanderamiento de la fragata "*Mariana*," el Infrascrito, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, tiene la honra de informar á su Excelencia que ha trasladado su nota citada al Señor Vivó á fin de que haga que el Señor Soler conteste á los cargos que le resultan.

El Infrascrito, &c.

(Firmado) MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

No. 266.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 3rd ultimo,* inclosing copies of your correspondence with the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting the bargain proposed to be made by Colonel Jimenez with Messrs. Goicoria and Co. of Havana, for the purpose of selling to them the penal services of the Yucatan Indians, who may be made prisoners in the war against them which is now being carried on in that province.

And I have to instruct you to inform the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have entirely approved the vigilant and energetic exertions made by you in order to defeat this disgraceful scheme.

* No. 264.

CLASS B.

No. 267.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of an instruction* which I have addressed to Lord Howden, inclosing a copy of your despatch of the 3rd of December last, and directing him to urge the Spanish Government to take steps for preventing the importation into Cuba of the Yucatan Indian prisoners.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 268.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 3rd of December last,† respecting the proposed transportation of Yucatan Indians to Cuba, 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 the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the representations of Her Majesty's Government upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 269.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 5.)

My Lord,

Mexico, February 2, 1855.

I HAVE received from Señor Regil y Peon, British Consular Agent at Merida, copy of a despatch and its inclosures, which he had addressed to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, with respect to the forced embarkation of forty-five Indian prisoners, to be placed at the disposal of the House of Goicouria in the Havana.

I immediately addressed the inclosed note on this subject to Señor Bonilla, calling to his Excellency's attention the manner in which the then Governor of Yucatan, and Colonel Jimenez, the agent of the house of Goicouria, had broken through the direct orders of this Government, the constitution of the country, and had also virtually broken through the Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Mexico, by forcing these unfortunate creatures to go to the Havana, and be kept there for a term of years, to all intents and purposes in a state of slavery; and I particularly called to his Excellency's attention the answer of Governor Cardenas to the petition of these unfortunate people, praying that they might not be sent out of their country, as they had never taken a share in the rebellion.

General Cardenas declared that he would not listen to their petition, because they were prisoners of war; whereas the Supreme Government had especially directed that all the Indians contracting to go as colonists should be told that they were entirely at liberty to do so or not, as they chose,—a right to which they were clearly entitled by the constitution of this country, by which they enjoy every right of citizenship. I have also in a further note called upon this Government to withdraw the privilege of embarking Indians at a point called Rio Lagartos, as it may be made the means of great abuses

* No. 435.

† No. 264.

‡ No. 443.

being committed, as well as the privilege granted in 1848 to Don Francisco Martin y Torrens to form a fishing establishment in the Isla de Mujeres.

Señor Bonilla has promised me that he will not fail to lay my notes before His Serene Highness the President, and give me an answer as soon as possible; nor have I failed to lay before his Excellency's attention the certainty of this conduct pursued towards the Indians, rendering the war of castes, which has unhappily been raging so long in Yucatan, of a still more sanguinary character, and the equal certainty of rendering peace hopeless.

I confess I am at a loss to understand the policy of this Government in not making use of every means in its power to put an end to this Traffic, being in want, as this country is, of people to cultivate its soil, and moreover that such conduct pursued by the local authorities towards the Indians would do much to induce them to offer their country to the Americans,—an offer which it is far from unlikely would be refused, and indeed this is an argument which should have its weight in preventing the Spanish authorities in the Island of Cuba from permitting such a system to be continued.

I have just received a despatch from Mr. Consul-General Crawford, by which I perceive that he has laid the whole case before your Lordship. I find it reported that the Indians who had arrived there had declared that they had gone there of their own accord.

I do not understand who was present when they were interrogated; but I confess I put more faith in the petition these unfortunate people made to Governor Cardenas before they were expatriated, than in the result of this interrogation on their arrival in the Havana.

The result of it, however, is, that his Excellency General Concha has declared that he felt bound to admit them as free colonists under the present Spanish law of colonization.

Her Majesty's steam-ship "Buzzard" being at this moment at Vera Cruz, I shall request the Commander to call in at the Port of Sisal, and put himself in communication with Señor Peon, who has acted throughout the whole business with great energy, and make a report of all that is going on there to Mr. Consul-General Crawford, or to Admiral Fanshawe, should he still be at the Havana.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 269.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, January 20, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Republic, that he has just received some despatches from the British Consular Agent in Merida, containing facts of a most important nature, as they fully prove that Señor Cardenas, the Acting Governor of Yucatan, and Colonel Jimenez, the agent of the house of Goicouria in the Havana, have committed the most cruel acts of oppression towards a large body of unfortunate Indian prisoners who have been condemned, to all intents and purposes, to a state of slavery by these two persons, virtually violating as they have done the Treaty for the abolition of slavery between Great Britain and this country, violating at the same time the constitution of this country, and breaking through the positive orders of the Supreme Government.

The statement laid before the Undersigned by Señor Don Pedro Regil y Peon is to the following effect:—

A large number of Indians in the prisons in Merida have been sent, against their will, to the Havana, and placed at the disposal of the house of Goicouria in that capital, and notwithstanding that the most earnest appeal was made to his Excellency by these unfortunate beings, in which they declared that they had never joined the ranks of the insurrectionists, but had been taken up merely on suspicion of siding with the rebels, and stated that it was entirely and absolutely against their will their being sent out of the

country. Señor Cardenas, in answer to this petition (copies of both which documents are inclosed), declared it to be without foundation, inasmuch as he considered them prisoners of war; and Señor Cardenas has also declared publicly that he was acting in accordance with orders he had received from the Supreme Government in sending, as he had done, these unfortunate persons on board a Mexican vessel called the "Maria Jacinta," and sent to the Havana, to be placed, as before stated, at the disposal of the house of Goicouria in a virtual state of slavery.

The Undersigned feels it unnecessary, after the correspondence which has already taken place between the Mexican Government and himself upon this subject, to enter into any further details with respect to the effect which the criminal conduct of the two persons engaged in this nefarious transaction must produce throughout the entire Peninsula of Yucatan. He will merely call to his Excellency's attention the fact that one of the first and obvious consequences of this act of oppression must be, that it will raise up such a spirit of exasperation on the part of the Indian population, as cannot but have the effect of rendering the war of Castes now raging in Yucatan of a still more sanguinary character, and must render all efforts on the part of the Supreme Government to bring this war to a termination entirely fruitless. In presence, however, of the above facts, and of the manner in which the Treaty for the abolition of slavery between Great Britain and this country has been wilfully violated by Señor Cardenas, the Governor of Yucatan, and by Colonel Jimenez, who was authorised by this Government to act as agent for the house of Goicouria, the Undersigned, in compliance with his duty, calls upon this Government to have those two persons brought immediately to trial, and properly punished for the breach they have committed in a solemn international engagement, and that measures be taken at once, through the Mexican Consul at the Havana, to have these unfortunate creatures restored to their country without loss of time, and that due measures be taken to prevent the embarkation from Yucatan, under similar circumstances, of any more of these unhappy creatures.

The Undersigned is assured that this appeal will not be made by him in vain to the Supreme Government of this country, taking into consideration, as he does, that the constitution of this country, and the direct and positive orders of the Supreme Government, have also been so wilfully violated upon a matter in which this Government has shown itself so zealous to support the high and honourable position this Republic has ever assumed with respect to the question of slavery, and that moreover it was his Serene Highness General St. Anna who signed the very Treaty for the abolition of slavery, which has been violated by the two persons of whom the Undersigned makes this formal complaint, in the name of Her Majesty's Government.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 269.

Mr. Doyle to Señor Bonilla.

Mexico, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to the note of this day's date which the Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to address to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, Minister of State, and charged with the Foreign Department, there are two points relative to the question of putting a stop to the fraudulent abduction of Indians from Yucatan, which the Undersigned considers it his duty also to bring before the earnest attention of his Excellency.

The first point to which the Undersigned will allude, is a permission which has just been granted by the Governor of the Department of Yucatan to the Company established for sending colonists to Yucatan, to embark the Indians from Rio Lagartos. The Undersigned has only to refer to the contents of his note of this day's date on this subject, to prove to his Excellency Señor Bonilla, the danger of allowing such a grant to exist, situated as Rio Lagartos is, so far

from the vigilance of the proper authorities, and when such a shameful abuse of the orders of the Supreme Government has just been committed under the eyes of the authorities in Merida.

The second point to which the Undersigned desires to call the attention of his Excellency Señor Bonilla, is a grant which was made in the year 1848 by the State authorities in Yucatan, to a Don Francisco Martin y Torrens to form an establishment nominally for a fishing station in the Isla de Mugerés.

In a note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency on the 29th of last March, he brought this matter before him, inclosing at the same time a copy of the grant made by the then Government of Yucatan.

Since which time, from the inquiries which the Undersigned has made of persons living in that country, and those who have exercised authority in it, no doubt remains in his mind that the grant has been made the means of fraudulently sending Indians to the Island of Cuba.

It is perfectly evident, moreover, that the grant in question is illegal, as neither under the federal system of Government, and much less under the present one, could any Governor of a State concede the permission in question, it being clearly in the province of the Supreme Government to do so.

The Undersigned, therefore, trusts that his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla will bring the contents of this note to the early attention of his Serene Highness the President, and the Undersigned has no doubt that such orders will be given by his Highness on these points as will at once put an end to such abuses on the part of the local authorities, knowing, as the Undersigned does, the determination of his Serene Highness to put down any attempt to carry on the Slave Trade either within the limits of the Mexican territory, or under its flag.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

PERCY W. DOYLE.

No. 270.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 9, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 2nd ultimo, stating that the Governor of Yucatan has transported from Merida to Havana 45 Indian prisoners, natives of Yucatan, whose services as labourers have been sold by the Mexican Government to the house of Goicouria and Co., of Havana, for a term of five years, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps which you have taken with regard to this affair.

No. 271.

Mr. Doyle to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 20.)

(Extract.)

Mexico, February 7, 1855.

IN my despatch of the 2nd instant, I had the honour to inform your Lordship, that as soon as I received an answer to the notes I had addressed to his Excellency Don Manuel Diez de Bonilla, complaining of the conduct of the Governor of Yucatan in sending Indians by force to the Havana, I should forward that answer by Captain Dobbie, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Buzzard," to the Havana, so that both Rear-Admiral Fanshawe, now in that port, as well as Mr. Consul-General Crawford, might be made aware of its contents.

Having just received that answer, I lose no time in forwarding it herewith; by it your Lordship will perceive that his Serene Highness the President

has directed that the conduct of Governor Cardenas should be inquired into, as well as to the facts of the privileges granted for the embarkation of Indians from Rio Lagartos and the state of the fishing establishment at the Isla de Mugerés.

His Excellency objects to Señor Peon having officially protested against the acts of Governor Cardenas, as he should have referred the matter to me; but what is of very great importance, is that the grants made to the Houses of Goicoria and Zangroniz have been revoked as far as the Indian prisoners are concerned, and that henceforward only free Indians will be allowed to be sent to the Havana as colonists.

If this plan be fairly carried out by the local authorities, it is evident, as has been already shown by the grants made to Señor Vecino, that no Indians will voluntarily go to the Island of Cuba; at any rate it will enable Mr. Consul-General Crawford, in presence of this declaration of Señor Bonilla, to call upon the Captain-General of Cuba to send back all such Indians to Yucatan.

I have requested Commander Dobbie to call off Sisal and Rio Lagartos on his way to the Havana, as I consider the presence of one of Her Majesty's vessels of war, even for a very short time, may be of the greatest service in holding in check the local authorities; and I have not failed to call to the attention of Señor Peon the fact of the revocation of the permission to send prisoners as colonists to the Island of Cuba, and have directed him to pay every attention to this point.

I shall have the honour of forwarding to your Lordship, by the next packet, a copy of my answer to the note I have just received from Señor Bonilla, in which I shall call again to his Excellency's attention the fact of my complaint against Señor Cardenas having been founded on his own answer to the petition of the Indians, to which he would not listen, because, he said, he considered them as prisoners of war; thus going against the direct orders of his Government, the constitution of the country, and virtually breaking through our Treaty with Mexico for the abolition of the Slave Trade; and it was with the view of preventing acts of so grave a nature that Señor Peon felt bound to interfere; and in doing so his Excellency will perceive that he acted as much in the interest of the Supreme Government, whose orders were being disobeyed, as in the watching over the due observance of the Treaty in force between the two countries.

Inclosure 1 in No. 271.

Señor Bonilla to Mr. Doyle.

(Translation.)

National Palace, Mexico, February 6, 1855.

THE Undersigned, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has the honour of communicating to his Excellency Percy W. Doyle, that his Serene Highness the General President has been pleased to direct that the Governor of Yucatan shall be asked for the information necessary respecting all the points contained in his two notes of the 20th of last month, which his Excellency Mr. Doyle addressed to the Undersigned relative to the Indians of that department recently contracted for by the house of Goicouria and Brothers, of Havana, who have been sent to the Island of Cuba. As notwithstanding that said Governor reported upon this business to the Supreme Government, the latter is anxious in having the circumstances and acts which have intervened cleared up, which his Excellency Mr. Doyle reveals, in order to dictate such measures as may be necessary.

That functionary has informed the Undersigned of the communications which took place between him and the Consular Agent of Her Britannic Majesty at Merida and Sisal as to the intervention which he wished to have, and which was not allowed in the matter of the contracts and conveyance to Cuba of the Indians referred to, the Supreme Government not being able to do less than acknowledge that that Governor acted according to his duty in not allowing the said Agent to interfere with the exercise of his authority over national subjects; and it is to be hoped, that his Excellency Mr. Doyle will be pleased to intimate

to the said Consular Agent, that he is not to make pretensions which are, like those, beyond the attributes he exercises.

The Undersigned, for this purpose, makes known to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, as a new proof that his Serene Highness interests himself more than any one in the welfare of his countrymen; and upon principle, he never will consent that, even apparently, any of them should remain in the condition of slaves, that notwithstanding that did not appear, but rather that such a possibility was destroyed by the express conditions under which the houses of Zangroniz and Goicouria were allowed to contract and convey Indians prisoners from Yucatan to Cuba. His Serene Highness being desirous to keep away every sinister interpretation of the benevolent intentions by which he was animated in granting such permissions, he was pleased expressly to revoke them since the 2nd of December last, when the respective orders were communicated by this Ministry, so that if the Governor of Yucatan permitted the contracting and transmission to Cuba of any prisoners, it was because the said orders had not been received by him.

This Ministry has received from the Consul of the Republic in Havana a communication in which he reports the arrival there of the Indians, prisoners of whom we are treating, by the national schooner "Maria Jacintha," on the 7th of January last, and as well by that as by the proceeding which that officer practised with due solemnity on board of said vessel, it appears that they went freely and voluntarily contracted, that they were satisfied and content with the way they had been engaged, had had good treatment and abundant victuals on their voyage, having nothing whatever to complain of, and were all resolved to remain in Cuba to fulfil their engagements.

The Undersigned incloses a copy of that document to his Excellency Mr. Doyle, as it serves for the most complete refutation of the violence and force which the English Consular Agent in Merida supposes had been used towards said Indians, and of which he informed his Excellency Mr. Doyle, who will see that none of them took advantage of the offer made to them by the Consul to restore them to Yucatan, as they would have done if in reality they had gone against their will, or had been deceived by false contracts.

The Supreme Government is persuaded that his Excellency Mr. Doyle, taking into consideration all that is set forth in this note, will be convinced that in the affair to which this has reference, the Government has acted justly; and that there is no reason for supposing that the Indians of Yucatan, contracted for the Island of Cuba, will be reduced to a state of slavery, or that in the execution of such measures there is any violation of the Treaty between the Republic and Great Britain for abolition of the Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

MANUEL DIEZ DE BONILLA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 271.

Declaration of Mexican Consul at the Havana.

Consulado de la República Mexicana en la Havana.

A LAS diez de la mañana de hoy 8 de Enero de 1855, pasé á bordo de la goleta Mexicana "Maria Jacinta," acompañado del interprete Don Ignacio Cámara, natural de Merida de Yucatan, de los Señores Don Ramon Serafin Diaz, Don Juan Pablo de los Rios y Don Antonio Mir, á tomar las declaraciones con arreglo á las instrucciones que tengo del Supremo Gobierno de mi nacion a los indigenos de Yucatan, Pascual Tamay, Juan Carrich, Calisto Aban, Hermenegildo Chan, José Cenobio Chin, Diego Pue, Antonio Cumul, José Martin Chan, Eusebio Canil, Raymundo Tun, Pascual Té, Antonio Xeel, Victoriano Chin, Juan Noh, Julian de la Cruz Han, Laureano Canul, Eleuterio Tamay, Diego Chi, Augustin Nanat, Victoriano Cruz, José Maria Day, Luciano Dib, Fernando Chan, Juan Balbine Uukul, Pedro Cupal, Estevan Cub, Pedro Han, Hilaria Cam casada con Pedro Han, que, han venido contratados por los Señores Goicouria Hermanos, para los trabajos de esta isla; y habiendolés preguntado a cada uno de ellos por medio del citado Don Ignacio Cámara si venian libres y voluntaria-

mente contratados, para trabajar en esta isla, han respondido que sí. Preguntados si se les habia hecho alguna violencia para traerlos á la fuerza por medio de amenazas, han respondido, que no les han hecho violencia alguna ni engaño, que estaban muy contentos y satisfechos de la manera con que venian contratados. Preguntados si durante la navegacion les habian dado buen trato y buenos alimentos, han contestado que el Capitan Dorantes les habia dado un trato excelente y abundantes comidas por lo que absolutamente no tenian de que quejarse; y finalmente habiendoles preguntado á todos los veintiocho indigenos de Yucatan arriba mencionados, que si habia alguno que no estubiese contento, que saliese á manifestarlo para que fuese devuelto á Yucatan, pues el Supremo Gobierno de la República no queria que se hiciese violencia ni engaño á ninguno de ellos; han contestado que no teniendo motivo alguno de queja, estaban resueltos á quedarse y cumplir sus compromisos. Con lo cual quedó concluido este acto, que firmamos los presentes conmigo el infrascrito Consul en la fecha arriba dicha.

Es copia fiel y esacta de que se halla inscrita en las paginas 65 y 66 del libro A, Protocolos de este Consulado.

(Firmado)

RAMON CARBALLO.

Havana, Enero 14 de 1855.

(Translation.)

Consulate of the Mexican Republic in Havana.

AT ten o'clock in the morning of this day, the 8th of January, 1855, I went on board the Mexican schooner "Maria Jacinta," accompanied by Don Ignacis Cámara, a native of Merida, in Yucatan, the interpreter, and by Messrs. Don Ramon Serafin Diaz, Don Juan Pallo de los Rios, and Don Antonio Mir, in order to receive, in accordance with the instructions of the Supreme Government of my nation, the declarations of Pascual Tamay, Juan Carrich, Calisto Aban, Hermenegildo Chan, José Cenobio Chin, Diego Pue, Antonio Cumul, José Martin Chan, Eusebio Canil, Raymundo Tun, Pascual Té, Antonio Xeel, Victoriano Chin, Juan Noh, Julian de la Cruz Han, Laureano Canul, Eleuterio Tamay, Diego Chi, Augustin Nanat, Victoriano Cruz, José Maria Day, Luciano Dib, Fernando Chan, Juan Balbine Uukul, Pedro Cupal, Estevan Cub, Pedro Han, Hilaria Cam, wife of Pedro Han, natives of Yucatan, who have come under engagements with Messrs. Goicouria Brothers to work in this island; and having asked each of them, through the aforesaid Don Ignacio Cámara, if they had come, engaged freely and willingly, to work in this island, they replied in the affirmative. Having asked them if any violence had been used towards them to bring them forcibly by means of threats, they replied, that no force or deceit had been used towards them, but that they were well contented and satisfied with the manner in which they had been engaged. Being asked if they were well treated and fed during the passage, they answered that Captain Dorantes had given them excellent treatment and plenty of food, so that they had absolutely nothing to complain of; and finally, having required the whole of the twenty-eight natives of Yucatan above mentioned, that if any one of them was dissatisfied, he would come forward and state it, so that he might be taken back to Yucatan, as the Supreme Government of the Republic would not that any force or deceit should be used towards any of them, they answered, that as they had no cause for complaint they were determined to remain and fulfil their engagements. With which this statement was concluded, and signed by us present, together with the undersigned Consul, at the date above mentioned.

True and exact copy of what is written in pages 65 and 66 of Book A, Protocols of this Consulate.

(Signed)

RAMON CARBALLO.

Havana, January 14, 1855.

No. 272.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Doyle.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 27, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th ultimo, inclosing a copy of Señor Bonilla's answer to the note which you had addressed to him respecting the 45 Yucatan prisoners who had been transported by the Governor of Yucatan from Merida to Havana, under the contract with the house of Goicouria and Co., and reporting that General Santa Anna has revoked that portion of the contract in question which relates to the Indian prisoners; and I have in reply to inform you, that I approve of the steps which you took on receiving the abovementioned note from Señor Bonilla.

I have at the same time to instruct you to convey to Señor Peon the thanks and acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for his efficacious intervention in this affair.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

MONTE VIDEO.

No. 273.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15, 1855.)

My Lord,

Monte Video, November 30, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a translation of a note which has been addressed to me by the Brazilian Minister Plenipotentiary in this Republic, wherein he states that suspicions have been entertained by his Government that the Brazilian schooner "*Caprichosa*" is about to sail from Rio de Janeiro, bound for Monte Video, and that it is the intention of the owners to attempt to fit her out at this port with the appliances for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of a cargo of slaves.

In my reply, a copy of which I also inclose, I have assured Señor Amaral that a strict watch would be kept on the movements of this vessel, and that any circumstances coming within the knowledge of Her Majesty's Agents in the River Plate, tending to confirm the suspicions entertained of the illegality of the proceedings of the "*Caprichosa*" would, in compliance with his request, be communicated to him without delay.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LENNON HUNT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 273.

Señor Amaral to Consul Hunt.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Monte Video, November 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Brazilian Empire has communicated to this Legation that suspicions are entertained that the Brazilian schooner "*Caprichosa*," about to leave Rio de Janeiro for the port of Monte Video, is intended to be fitted out in this port for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of slaves.

Although this Legation has already taken the necessary steps in order that the said schooner may be examined and taken possession of should she prove to be destined for the Slave Trade, I have thought it proper to make you acquainted with these suspicions, and shall feel thankful for any information of which you may become possessed relative to this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOSE MARIA DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 273.

Consul Hunt to Señor Amaral.

Sir,

Monte Video, November 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note that you addressed to me on the 21st instant, in which you were pleased to inform me that suspicions have been entertained by the Government of His Majesty the

Emperor of Brazil that an attempt is about to be made to fit out the Brazilian schooner "Caprichosa" in this port for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of a cargo of slaves.

I beg to offer you my best thanks for this timely intelligence, and to assure you that I shall not fail to transmit for your information any circumstances which may come to the knowledge of Her Majesty's Agents in the River Plate tending to confirm the suspicions which are at present entertained of the illegal intentions of the owners or charterers of the "Caprichosa," in order that those designs may be frustrated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LENNON HUNT.

No. 274.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Hunt.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th of November last, inclosing a copy of a note which had been addressed to you by the Brazilian Minister at Monte Video, in which he gives information of the suspicious character of a Brazilian vessel, the "Caprichosa," which, it was supposed, her owners intended to fit out at Monte Video for a slave-trading expedition; and I have to state to you in reply, that I approve the answer which you returned to Señor Amaral's communication.

You will take an early opportunity of conveying to him the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information so opportunely given to you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

PERSIA.

No. 275.

Mr. Thompson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, January 12, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf respecting the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*," (referred to in my despatch of November 8, 1853,) together with a copy of my reply.

Captain Kemball having again complained of the conduct of the Persian Slave Trade Commissioner, and a report having been circulated in Bushire that it was the intention of the slave importers to obtain the connivance of the Prime Minister by offering to him one of the slaves in question, I brought both these circumstances before his Excellency, who, however, repudiated in strong terms the imputation of his having lent himself to such a proceeding. At my request a Vizirial letter has been addressed on the subject to Meerza Mahmood Khan, of which I beg leave to inclose a translation, instructing him to use every effort for effecting the seizure of the slaves, and threatening him with severe punishment, as well as dismissal from his post, in the event of his showing any remissness in the discharge of this duty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 275.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, October 18, 1854.

WHEN about to close yesterday the present packet, I received a visit from Meerza Mahmood Khan, Persian Commissioner for the suppression of the Slave Trade, for the purpose of informing me that though now fully convinced, from the evidence adduced by me, of the importation of slaves in the buglah of Hajee Mahomed Baukir, as reported in my letter to your address of the 14th ultimo, he did not find himself in a position to compel their surrender at the hands of the influential parties to whom they were consigned, and into whose possession they have fallen.

Time will not admit, nor can it be necessary, that I should trouble you with copies and translations of the voluminous correspondence which passed between Meerza Mahmood Khan and myself before this result was obtained. He has assured me that he will by this opportunity lay all the circumstances of the case before his superiors at Tehran, and it may be sufficient therefore that I should furnish you with the depositions of the witnesses as per margin,* upon which his convictions like my own are founded.

I beg to observe that the first direct clue of which I could avail myself to elicit the above disclosures, was derived from the statement of one of the eight slaves brought up in the "*Mahmoodee*," whom, being a concubine and for some time domesticated with her master, it was not considered necessary to land at Nudukkoo,† and upon her statement was the nakhoda at length persuaded that a frank and full confession could alone prevent the forfeiture

* Zuhra, slave girl; Hajee Mahomed, Cheharshamba; Hajee Izossuf; Alee; Furruj; Zanhar; Jaafer.

† Berekhee was before mentioned as the place of disembarkation. The two villages are so closely situated to each other, as to render the destination immaterial.

of the recognizances into which he had entered of the seven slaves landed at Hudukkoo, one I find as having been for a considerable time the property of his master Abd'ulkaheem the son of Hajee Mahomed Shurreef is not liable to seizure. Upon the remaining six my claim is indisputable; but I incline to believe with Meerza Mahmood Khan that nothing short of the deputation of a Mohassil, or the receipt of a positive order from Tehran, will procure their delivery.

Hajee Abdul Mahomed and Hajee Mahomed Baukir the owner of these slaves having failed to prepare an Ishtishad Nameh, exonerating them from any complicity in the transaction, propose now, I am told, to avail themselves of the proffered advocacy of Meerza Reza the Wakayaa Nigar to screen them from the consequences of contravening the Shah's orders.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 275.

Mr. Thomson to Captain Kemball.

Sir,

Tehran, January 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith copies of two vizirial letters, one to the Prince Governor of Fars and the other to Meerza Mahmood Khan, relative to the slaves which were imported in the ship "*Mahomedee*." In the latter you will observe that the Persian Slave Trade Commissioner is distinctly ordered to procure the slaves and to act in conformity with the stipulations of the Convention, and in the Vizirial letter, a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch to you of the 20th of October, the Persian Ministers signified their intention of removing him from his post if he continued to show any remissness in executing the duty which has been confided to him. In their present communication that announcement is repeated with the addition that he will also be punished in some other manner, if the instructions of the Persian Government are not carried into effect by him; and I have to request that you will be so good as to make him understand clearly that I shall not fail to demand and insist on his dismissal if I should receive any further complaints from you regarding his conduct.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 3 in No. 275.

The Sedr Azim to Meerza Mahmood Khan.

(Translation.)

January 7, 1854.

ON the 20th of October, I wrote to you that a buglah, belonging to Hajee Mahomed Bakir, with seven males and female slaves, had anchored in one of the ports of Tengistan, and had there got rid of the slaves. According to your duty, you commenced investigating the matter, and bound over the captain and crew of the vessel to pay a certain sum to the Government should the case be proved. The British Resident then desired you to administer an oath according to religious form by which they were to affirm that they had not embarked slaves, but you objected to do this,—for this reason, I wrote to you to administer the oath and terminate the affair in conformity with the Convention; and on the 30th of Sefer, it was also communicated to you, that it had been reported here, that the above vessel had been searched, but that no slaves were found in her. And also that the commander of the vessel, although he had previously denied that either he himself or the owner of the vessel, Hajee Mahomed Bakir, had imported slaves, had now, solely from vindictive feelings, accused the above owner of having imported slaves.

I now write to you that this commander deserves to be punished for having first of all denied the fact upon oath, and afterwards having admitted the reverse. You will make inquiries, and should it be founded on truth you will act according to the Convention and the instructions you have received.

Within the last few days I have again received communications from the English Mission to the effect that the above charge was well founded, and that the slaves were still there,—that one of the latter had been made a eunuch, and that moreover a report had been spread in these parts that I had desired one of them to be sent here for myself. This has caused me the greatest surprise, and I therefore deem it necessary to write to you distinctly that if, in truth, slaves were imported in the above vessel and can now be traced, you must without fail claim and seize them, and act in accordance with the stipulations of the Convention. As for myself, I am quite disgusted with slaves and eunuchs, and whoever has given out that I desired to have one of these slaves, has done wrong, for I would not consent that the slightest infraction of the Convention should take place.

If hereafter I should again perceive any remissness on your part in executing your duty, I will most certainly send a special agent to bring you here, and I will cause you to be severely punished. This is all that I have to say on the subject. Certainly be sure that you seize these slaves wherever they may be, and act up to the Articles of the Convention.

No. 276.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, January 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, announcing the steps he had taken for effecting the liberation of 70 slaves imported into the ports of Kelat and Charrack.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 276.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, November 7, 1853.

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith for your information copy of a letter with its inclosures I have addressed this day to Commodore Robinson, acquainting him with the alleged importation of slaves into the ports of Charrack and Kelat, and indicating the steps to be adopted, with a view to effect their liberation.

In communicating this intelligence to Meerza Mahmood Khan, I proposed should he desire to associate one of his subordinates with the naval officer to be employed on the present service, to provide him with a passage on board a native vessel to Bassidore, where he would find the Honourable Company's brigantine "Tigris;" but such an arrangement the Persian Commissioner deemed superfluous, and preferred postponing his departure until the result of my requisition upon the chiefs of the ports in question being ascertained, the amount of fine can be determined to which the importers may be liable, and the usual steps be taken for its execution.

Assuming that no evasion will be practised to avoid the delivery of the slaves, I have made the necessary arrangements for their early transmission to Bombay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 276.

Captain Kemball to Commodore Robinson.

Sir,

Bushire, November 7, 1853.

I HAVE received intelligence from the British Agent at Lingah to the effect that the Chief of Charrack having acknowledged the importation of (30) slaves into that place, he had called upon him to retain them in his custody pending the receipt of advices from me; considering it desirable that no time should be lost in emancipating these individuals, if really forthcoming, I have the honour to request that you will be pleased to issue instructions to the officer commanding the Honourable Company's brigantine "Tigris," to proceed to the port in question for the purpose of receiving charge of them, and conveying them to Bassadore. The accompanying communication to Mulla Ahmed directs him to attend Lieutenant Dakers on this service. I likewise inclose a letter to the address of the Chief of Charrack, announcing the object of his mission.

My requisition upon Sheikh Hassan ben Abd'ullah being restricted for the present to the delivery of the slaves, Meerza Mahmood Khan, the Persian Commissioner, has intimated to me his concurrence in the above arrangement, without deeming it necessary to depute one of his subordinates to assist in its execution. The matter of the fine to be exacted from the importer is left for after consideration.

You will observe from the inclosed translation of the agent's report, that in addition to the 30 individuals above mentioned, a free woman was decoyed on board the same vessel at the Island of Socotra, and was subsequently sold into slavery. I beg that she may be also afforded a passage to Bassadore preparatory to her being restored to her own country, unless she should express a wish to remain at Charrack.

In the removal of the slaves to the naval station, Lieutenant Dakers will exercise his own discretion with respect to receiving them on board of the "Tigris," or hiring a boat for their accommodation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have received another communication from the Agent at Lingah, of which a translation is inclosed, reporting his having traced a further importation of 40 slaves in the buglah of one Abdul Hadee to the port of Kelat. The same course should be pursued by Lieutenant Dakers in this, as has been laid down for his guidance in the Charrack case. I inclose the requisite letters to Mullah Ahmed and the Chief of Kelat.

Inclosure 3 in No. 276.

Mullah Ahmed to Captain Kemball.

(Translation.)

October 16, 1853.

I AFORE wrote you regarding the slaves that were bought from Zanzibar to Charrack, the names of their owners, in what vessels imported, also that I had addressed a letter to Sheikh Nassan on the subject, but obtained no reply.

When the Commodore came to Bassadore I waited upon him there, and told him that slaves had been brought to Charrack, that I had written regarding them to Sheikh Hassan ben Abd'ullah, but received no answer. I also told him that they (the people of Charrack, did not wish me to visit their port. The Commodore directed me to proceed to the spot for the purpose of investigating the matter; I accordingly returned to Lingah and thence embarked for Charrack.

On arrival I called upon the Sheikh in hopes of ascertaining from his own mouth the particulars of the affair. He confessed unto me that slaves to the number of thirty had been brought into his country by the people of Charrack in the buglah of one Hassan Abd'ullah. Having heard the above acknowledgment from the Sheikh himself, I told him to keep them all in custody until I had informed the Resident, and received his instructions regarding them.

While with the Sheikh I also heard that one of the people of Batinah, called Humud, had come as a passenger in the same buglah from Zanzibar, and, on reaching Socotra, had taken unto himself a wife in the island, whom he put on board. During the voyage he sold her for a small sum to a native of Lar called Sapoor.

The latter party again on reaching Charrack disposed of her for thirty dollars to Khaefan ben Abd'ullah ben Ahmed. She was a freed-woman. I told the Sheikh therefore that he must seize and retain her in his own house, pending receipt of orders from the Resident.

Inclosure 4 in No. 276.

Mullah Ahmed to Captain Kemball.

(Translated Extracts.)

Lingah, October 27, 1853.

I BEG to inform you that Abd'ul Hadee Humadee, concerning whom I afore wrote, has brought in his buglah from Zanzibar 40 slaves, and landed them at Geo; his boat has he drawn up on the hard; thence he went to Kelat. I informed Sheikh Hassan ben Abd'ullah Governor of Charrack of this matter, when I was with him. He replied: "True, the above individual dwelled in my territories in former days, but on return from the Sowahil, he went to reside for some time in the Island of Geo, and after that proceeded to live amongst the people of his own tribe the Beni Numad; I have no authority over him." Up to the present moment Abd'ool Hadee is at Kelat with his buglah; the slaves he brought therein are also with him.

No. 277.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1853.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th of January last, and its inclosures, on the subject of the seven slaves landed near Bushire from the "*Mahmoodee*," under the circumstances reported in your despatch of the 8th November, 1853; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your having requested the Prime Minister of the Shah to address a further Vizirial letter to the Persian Slave Trade Commissioner, respecting his neglect of duty in having hitherto failed to procure the liberation of the slaves in question, and the punishment of the parties concerned in their importation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 278.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 17, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 17th of January last, inclosing a copy of a despatch which you had received from Captain Kemball, the East India Company's Resident in the Persian Gulf, reporting the steps

which he had taken to procure the liberation of 70 slaves recently landed in the ports of Kelat and Charrack, and the punishment of the persons concerned in their importation; and I have in reply to instruct you to convey to Captain Kemball my entire approval of his proceedings in this affair.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 279.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, May 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a despatch I have received from Captain Kemball, and translations of a further correspondence which I have had with the Persian Government relative to the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*."

Your Lordship will perceive that I have been unable to obtain a third Vizirial letter, which I had hoped would have enabled me to produce the slaves.

I am of opinion that the refusal of the Persian Government to give this document is in consequence of some of the Chief Ministers having received a bribe, either in cash or in slaves, and I believe that they have issued orders to the authorities in Bushire to beware of giving rise to a similar correspondence in future by allowing an importation of this nature to be repeated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 279.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, February 13, 1854.

I REGRET to inform you that the Vizirial letters, of which transcripts were inclosed in your despatch of the 10th ultimo, have failed to procure the liberation of the slaves imported in the "*Mahmoodee*."

The accompanying copies and translations of two communications addressed by me to Meerza Mahmood Khan will acquaint you with the only steps which, in addition to verbal remonstrance, I have been able to take on the spot, in order to give weight to the ostensible instructions of the Persian Ministers. That they should have remained without effect is to be attributed probably to some secret intimation from the same quarter, which emboldened Hajee Abdul Mahomed to disregard a private understanding between the Persian Commissioner and myself, suggested by the difficult and delicate position of that officer, that, provided the slaves were at once sent back to Tungistan, to be thence reclaimed, I would, so far as depended on me, ignore his complicity in the matter.

Except in so much as he was wanting in energy at the outset, I confess I am not disposed to attach any great degree of blame to Meerza Mahmood Khan for the ill success of this issue. In a case like the present, he certainly does not possess the means of enforcing his authority, while, on the other hand, at his interviews with me, though apparently sensible of the effects of your displeasure, he candidly avowed the dilemma in which he was placed, and seemed impressed with the conviction that any urgency on his part would no less expose him to the resentment of his immediate superiors. The hints he threw out that the Persian Ministers manifestly favoured the evasion of Hajee Abdul Mahomed, and thereby furnished a cue for his own behaviour, even to the extent of denying all knowledge of the slaves, convinced me of the futility of his cooperation.

It is nevertheless, I submit, highly desirable that the authorities at the
CLASS B.

capital should vindicate their sincerity on the present occasion in accordance with the spirit of the existing Convention. I am in a position to state that the slaves in question were, up to a very late date, and I believe still are, in the house of Hajee Abdul Mahomed. The result of this prosecution is doubtless narrowly watched by all parties interested in the future operation of the Treaty, and finally I should observe that impunity to the offenders will no less afford encouragement to others than it will be interpreted by the Sheikhs of Zingah, Moogoo, Kelat and Charrack, as an injustice done to themselves. Although proof be wanting of the fact, there is room for suspicion that the contumacy of the last-mentioned Chief, as reported in my despatch of the 12th ultimo, may be ascribed to his experience of the progress of this case, if not to some secret advice from the persons concerned in it.

Lest the evidence already supplied should have failed to convince the Persian Ministers of the alleged importation, I beg to hand you herewith an original letter to my address from Hajee Mahomed Shereef, the consignee of a domesticated slave (the concubine of his son), brought up last season in the "*Mahmoodee*," and of a boy (likewise domesticated), the property of the same person, who was shipped as her attendant on board of that vessel. The statement of Hajee Mahomed Shereef is supported by the usual letters of advice, and by the depositions of the nakhoda (master) and of the woman abovementioned. You will observe that he is himself no further interested in the fate of the slaves than that he is anxious to recover the boy in question, who, having been landed with the others at Berekkee, was put out of the way to prevent my obtaining his testimony.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

Inclosure 2 in No. 279.

Captain Kemball to Meerza Mahmood Khan.

(Translation.)

January 30, 1854.

ON several occasions have letters passed between us on the subject of the liberation by you of a number of slaves imported into these ports in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*," belonging to Hajee Mahomed Baukir. The settlement and adjustment of the affair you deferred and caused to stand over, pending the receipt of instructions from the capital regarding it. Behold now, in the packet just arrived from the British Minister at Tehran, have I received copy of a communication addressed to yourself by the Sedr Azim on this particular subject. Transcript thereof I beg to inclose for your perusal, although no doubt the document has been transmitted to you in the original.

An order to the above effect having been issued, it behoves me to write these few lines, and inquire what plans you have in view, and how you intend acting in the matter? Be so kind as to send for my information, a full, clear, and categorical answer.

Inclosure 3 in No. 279.

Captain Kemball to Meerza Mahmood Khan.

(Translation.)

February 3, 1854.

ADVERTING to my note of the 30th January, I beg to acknowledge your message of this day, to the effect that you have failed by persuasion and threats to induce Hajee Abdul Mahomed to surrender the slaves imported in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*," and, having exhausted these means, that you are not in a position to compel their surrender. There is but one inference to be drawn from your repeated assurances to me prior to the receipt of orders from Tehran, and the lukewarmness you have since exhibited. The question being, however, one of the breach of a solemn Convention between two States it, emains to be seen in what light the contumacy of Hajee Abdul Mahomed

will now be viewed by higher authority. If he entertain the belief that Her Majesty's Minister will countenance a proceeding, the effect of which must be to render the engagement in question a dead letter, he is certainly mistaken.

Inclosure 4 in No. 279.

Hajee Mahomed Shereef to Captain Kemball.

(Translation.)

October 19, 1853.

I BEG to represent that your servant, my son, consigned to me a female slave, his concubine, and with child by him, from Hodeidah in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*," and with her a slave, also a long time in his possession, to attend upon her, under charge of the nakhoda (master) of the vessel, Hajee Mahomed Chehar Shambah. On the arrival of the said buglah at Bushire, the female slave came to hand, but the male slave they did not deliver to me. I appealed to the nakhoda several times, who informed me that he had landed him on the coast of Tungistan, together with the other slaves who were with him in the vessel. Now a considerable time has elapsed and I see no signs of the slave and as the buglah is under British colours, I have thought it necessary to represent the case to you who are one of a people disposed to justice.

(Signed) MAHOMED SHEREEF.

Inclosure 5 in No. 279.

Mr. Thomson to Sadr Azim.

(Translation.)

April 27, 1854.

I HAVE on numerous occasions urged the Minister for Foreign Affairs as well as your Excellency, to issue a third Vizirial letter with reference to the slaves which were imported in the vessel named "*Mahmoodee*," the two previous ones having been of no use whatever, for reasons which I have some reason to believe your Excellency, upon instituting a rigid inquiry, may have it in your power to ascertain. The circumstances connected with this importation, which have been communicated to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to your Excellency also, leave no doubt that the slaves were actually imported in the "*Mahmoodee*," and they also prove the shameful means which have been practised at Bushire to conceal them, and to evade the orders which His Majesty the Shah, with the view of causing this Traffic to cease, has issued. It is therefore absolutely necessary that the Persian Government should take all the steps in its power for the production of the slaves in question, in order that it may become patent to all that it is their firm intention to put an end to this infamous Traffic, and thereby relieve themselves from even a shadow of imputation that the evasion of His Majesty's orders has been connived at by them.

I have, therefore, to make a distinct request that a third Vizirial letter shall be issued, couched in such peremptory terms as to prevent any underhand attempt at evasion of its purport on the part of interested persons in Bushire, and empowering a Mohessil to be appointed by Captain Kemball, the Resident at Bushire, to use every means to follow up the track of the slaves in question. No doubt a Vizirial letter of this nature will be issued without delay by your Excellency, and with a document of this nature I am inclined to hope that, notwithstanding the long period of time which has elapsed since this matter was brought to your Excellency's notice, and the remissness which has been shown at Bushire by those Persian authorities who ought to have exerted themselves faithfully in the duty which has been confided to them, the obstacles may be removed by which your Excellency's two former letters on this subject were rendered of no effect. I also trust that as my messenger is on the point of being dispatched to Bushire, your Excellency will issue the instructions to whomsoever necessary, that the above Vizirial letter may reach me without any further delay.

Inclosure 6 in No. 279.

The Sadr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

May 2, 1854.

IN your letter of the 27th April, you requested that a third Vizirial letter should be issued by the Persian Ministers with reference to the vessel named "*Mahmoodee*," with the pretext that the two previous ones had been of no use whatever. Indeed, at several interviews you had represented this circumstance verbally before, and the Persian Ministers acquainted you with the substance of the letters from Meerza Mahmood Khan, Assistant Secretary to the Foreign Office, and who is specially employed in putting a stop to the maritime importation of slaves, and with the trustworthy testimony of the notables of Bushire, stating clearly that the necessary investigations had been made, and that nothing had appeared to prove the correctness of those documents; that, on the contrary, it was ascertained that the nakhoda of that Baghala, after having asserted that no slaves whatever had been imported in the "*Mahmoodee*," had, on a second occasion, out of spite and enmity towards Hajee Mohammed Bahir, cast this imputation on him, in order to entangle him in difficulties. How, then, can it be said that the previous orders had remained fruitless?

You remarked that the Persian Ministers, by producing the slaves in question, would show clearly to the world that it is their firm intention to put an end to this infamous Traffic. But with the exertions of Meerza Mahmood Khan, with four assistants, however, for the special purpose of putting a stop to this trade, in conformity with the instructions issued by the Persian Ministers, and the fulfilment of the clauses therein contained, what necessity is there for further proofs as to their intentions? Indeed, it was only the other day that a fine was levied in this sense by the Persian Commissioner,—a fact which will no doubt be reported in full detail to you by the Resident in Bushire. It is hardly fair that, for an imputation made by the nakhoda, whose interested motives and falsehood have become palpable to our employes, and have likewise been attested by the trustworthy declarations of the inhabitants of that coast, notwithstanding those inhabitants have been kept in a state of fear and alarm, with the orders of the Persian Ministers pending over them for a period of eight months, they should have yet another order issued against their peace and tranquillity, and thus be kept in a still further state of excitement and anxiety without rhyme or reason. Besides, in accordance with the stipulations of the friendly Convention entered into, it is on board of Her Majesty's vessels that the employes of this Government are enjoined to make their researches, and thus in person to put in practice their orders, not on land. Nor, after eight months' investigation, does it appear possible, without the use of measures in themselves unjust and tyrannical, to take any further steps for the proof of these assertions. Still those stringent instructions enjoining our Commissioner not to be remiss in his duty, have never been, and shall never be, withheld. You are perfectly acquainted yourself with the state of this country, especially with the character of the Arab population of that part of the coast. Their wild condition will not admit of our treating them with uncalled-for roughness, without bringing about a revolution in the country, simply to show, in an affair already passed and forgotten, proved to be without foundation or common sense, and in which strong measures are not necessary, that the Ministers of this Government are firm in their intention of putting an end to this infamous Traffic.

It is evident that, as they have done up to this day, they will still hereafter persevere, and issue stronger and more stringent orders in these affairs.

Inclosure 7 in No. 279.

Mr. Thomson to the Sadr Azim.

(Translation.)

May 7, 1854.

THE substance of your Excellency's letter of the 4th instant, in reply to my communication relative to the necessity of producing the concealed slaves, caused me great surprise; for notwithstanding the testimony of so many persons to the effect that slaves had indeed been imported in the "*Mahmoodee*," and that at variance with the orders of His Majesty the Shah they had been secreted on the coast of the Persian Gulf, the Persian Ministers persist still in considering these facts as groundless and unmeaning, and attribute the non-fulfilment of their previous orders and Vizirial letters to this circumstance. In order, however, that in addition to the testimony already given, there may be for the Persian Ministers a further proof on this head, I have the honour to forward to your Excellency copy of a letter from a merchant of Bushire, for whom 2 slaves had been embarked on the "*Mahmoodee*."

When the Persian Ministers view the shameful manner in which certain authorities at Bushire have prevented the former Vizirial letters from being acted upon, they will not fail to see how necessary it is that they should clear themselves from the imputation which such conduct will naturally give rise to. I have pointed out the mode by which there is every probability of the slaves being produced; and if the Persian Ministers continue to refuse that means being employed, I am forced to conclude that it is their wish that the offenders should be screened; and they must be sensible, when this Government itself shows an inclination to protect persons who have so flagrantly disobeyed their own orders, that it is offering to others an encouragement, which will not fail of being followed, to imitate their example.

Under such circumstances, I have to request that you will issue a third Vizirial letter of the nature described in my letter of the 30th of April, in order that, as a long time has elapsed since this matter was first brought to your Excellency's notice, there may be no further delay, and by being sent to me this affair may be concluded a moment sooner.

No. 280.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 8.)

My Lord,

Tehran, May 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch I have received from Captain Kemball, the Resident in the Persian Gulf, regarding a visit which he had received from the Sheikh of Charrack, and reporting that that person had given a written engagement, binding himself to deliver up the 10 slaves which were in his possession, to detain the importing vessels, and to comply implicitly in future with the stipulations of the Slave Trade Convention between Great Britain and Persia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 280.

Translation of a written promise furnished by Sheikh Hassan bin Abdullah, Governor of Charrack, to the Resident in the Persian Gulf.

MY object in writing these lines is (to make it known), that I, Hassan bin Abdullah, bin Abdul Rahman, Governor of Charrack, in accordance with (the terms of) an agreement entered into with the Resident and Meerza Mahmood Khan, do hereby promise and pledge myself to hand over, without demur or excuse, the 10 slaves that are in my possession, to any one of the deputies of

Meerza Mahmood Khan, who may arrive for the purpose of receiving them. Further, with respect to the two buglahs, wherein the slaves were imported the one belonging to Abdool Hadee, the other to Hassan Abdullah, they shall both be answered for and detained by me until such time as an order from the Supreme (Persian) Government be issued regarding them; and whensoever a deputy of Meerza Mahmood Khan's arrives, I will strictly act up to, and faithfully comply with, the (spirit of the) order that may have been issued; also, if at any future period any one of my subjects or dependents be found guilty of transporting or dealing with slaves, such act being contrary to the Convention existing between Great Britain and Persia, then do I engage and acknowledge that agreeably to the rules of the exalted Government, the stipulated penalties, whether as regards fine or chastisement, shall be fully inflicted, and in nowise shall any excuse be attended to.

These few lines have I penned by way of engagement.

Dated 13th Jemadee-oos sanee, 1270.
13th March, 1854.

Inclosure 2 in No. 280.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, March 15, 1854.

I AM happy to acquaint you that since the date of my letter of 12th January last, Sheikh Hassan bin Abdullah, the Chief of Charrack, has visited Bushire for the purpose of discussing his responsibility on account of the slaves lately imported into his dependencies. On his arrival he at once repaired to the house of my Arabic Meerza, where he took up his abode during his stay.

At a first interview with me, Sheikh Hassan denied absolutely that any slaves had been brought to his territory. With some inconsistency he complained warmly of the hardship and unfairness of his being alone brought to account while every other tribe in the Gulf—and he enumerated several vessels trading between Lingah and Zanzibar—had been permitted to land its consignments with impunity; and he urged that the whole charge against his people was a calumny invented by Moolla Ahmed, our Agent, to gratify a feeling of animosity towards himself; but on my remarking that the evidence which had been adduced in the shape of the nakhoda's confession, the admissions previously made by himself, and the presence of the woman at his port who had been kidnapped from Socotra on the same occasion, was too strong to be subverted by his mere assertion; and on my reminding him that continued contumacy on his part must deprive him of all claim to leniency, while a disposition to atone for his fault would on the contrary entitle him to the benefit of my advocacy with higher authority, he at length modified his former denial by declaring the alleged number of slaves to be grossly exaggerated, and by assuring me that of those actually landed the major portion had been immediately transported beyond the limits of his control either into the interior or to ports on the opposite coast. In short, on being farther pressed, he affirmed that ten only of the slaves in question were now forthcoming, and would be delivered on demand; but for the rest, his town, his boats, and all he possessed, were at the mercy of the two Governments, to be dealt with as they might think proper.

Conceiving that the liberation of these slaves, whether regarded in the light of an example, or as affecting the condition of the individuals themselves, must be not less desirable than the payment of a proportionate fine, I had no hesitation in suggesting to Meerza Mahmood Khan, that the tender of the number stated should be accepted, though, not to deviate from the terms of the penalty originally proposed, this arrangement might involve an abatement of the Sheikh's personal liability corresponding to their value, which we estimated at ten tomans per head. From the inclosed copy and translation of a written security furnished by Sheikh Hassan, you will observe that this course was adopted by the Persian Commissioner, otherwise that the disposal of the offending vessels or the punishment of their owners remains as before to be determined at Tehran.

The balance due by the Chief of Carrack is thus reduced to fifty tomans; but considering that his present subservience has precluded a recourse to coercive

measures, it might not be impolitic, perhaps, to forego also its exaction, provided the engagements he has contracted be punctually fulfilled, and so long as the pledge he has given on the part of himself and his dependents to abstain from engaging hereafter in the forbidden Traffic be not violated.

The reproach of partiality and unfairness, which certainly attaches to us in the eyes of Arabs, for the immunity from responsibility hitherto enjoyed by slavers from the opposite coast, will serve, I trust, to excuse the lenity I may appear to have exercised in an undue degree towards the Chief of Charrack. I have, however, duly warned him that a repetition of his offence will be visited with all the penalties specified in the Persian Convention, and the steps to be taken this year for enforcing the provisions of our Treaties with the tribes of Oman, will doubtless justify in future a fuller measure of severity with respect to the Persian ports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

No. 281.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 14, 1854

I HAVE received your despatch of the 23rd of May last, reporting that Captain Kemball had failed to procure the liberation of the slaves imported into Bushire by the ship "*Mahmoodce*," and inclosing copies of a further correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Persian Minister respecting these slaves.

I have in reply to inform you that I approve of your proceedings in this matter; and I have to desire that, if on the receipt of this despatch, you shall not have received a satisfactory answer to the last note which you addressed to the Persian Minister on the 7th of May, you will make a fresh application to his Excellency on the part of Her Majesty's Government, requiring that the slaves shall be produced, and that the Persian Government shall insist upon their own orders being obeyed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 282.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th of May last, inclosing a copy of a written engagement which had been entered into with Her Majesty's Resident at Bushire, by Sheikh Hassan bin Abdullah, the Governor of Charrack, promising to deliver up 10 slaves who had been recently imported into his territories, and pledging himself to observe faithfully for the future the stipulations of the Convention between Great Britain and Persia for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I have, in reply, to desire that you will instruct Captain Kemball to take means of informing the Sheikh of Charrack that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction the engagement he has entered into, and hope that he will faithfully adhere to it.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 283.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 31.)

My Lord,

Camp, near Tehran, June 16, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from the Resident in the Persian Gulf, announcing the seizure and despatch to Bombay of 2 slaves, who had been smuggled into Lingah.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure in No. 283.

Captain Kemball to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Bushire, May 4, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copies of two letters* addressed by me to Commodore Robinson, regarding the liberation of 2 slaves, a boy and a girl, each about eight years old, who were sold at Lingah to some natives of India, touching at that port on their way to Bushire and Turkish Arabia.

It would seem that Abdul Nebbee, after obtaining possession of the slaves in question, instead of conveying them direct to Bassidore, carried them to Lingah, where he left them in the charge of the British Agent, and thence proceeded to wait in person on Commodore Robinson, in the hope of prevailing upon that officer to relinquish them in his hands. Commodore Robinson, however, directed the agent to forward them to Bushire, where they arrived on the 2nd instant, and having now been made over to me by the Persian Commissioner they will be forwarded by the steamer "Ajdaha," expected to leave this port in the course of a few days.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

No. 284.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

Camp, near Tehran, September 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report that although the Persian Minister had at my urgent request issued a third Vizirial letter instructing the authorities of Fars to investigate the affair of the slaves imported in the ship "Mahmoodee," and, in the event of their importation being established, to take measures for their being produced, I did not transmit that document to Sheeraz, as I was of opinion it was so worded that no satisfactory result would be obtained from it.

On the receipt, therefore, of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th of July, I made a fresh application, as instructed therein, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, requiring that the slaves should be produced, and that the Persian Government should insist upon their orders being obeyed: and I have the honour to inclose translations of the further correspondence which has passed between me and the Sedr Azim on this subject. No reply has yet been received to my letter, Inclosure No. 3, but I have received a verbal message from the Sedr Azim, in which he promises in the most distinct terms that the slaves will be produced, and the importers made an example of, as soon as the state of affairs in the Persian Gulf will admit of forcible measures being adopted against them; but that for the present he must be held excused if the wishes of Her Majesty's Government, which he is most anxious to meet, are not at once complied with.

* Not received August 3, 1854.

I am fully of opinion that the Sedr Azim means to put in execution the promise he has just given; and as I am of opinion that it will be found eventually that the real importer of the slaves is a person who possesses great influence among the Chiefs on the shores of the Gulf, and therefore has it in his power to direct that influence against the Government, it is my intention not to press the Government too hard for the present, but to do so as soon as a better degree of order exists in the Gulf, if they should then show any disinclination to fulfil their promise. I trust your Lordship will not disapprove of my acting in the manner I propose doing.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 284.

Mr. Thomson to the Sedr Azim.

September 13, 1854.

DURING several months past, I have been under the necessity of repeatedly writing to your Highness regarding the slaves imported into Persia in the buglah "*Mahmoodee*." In this matter, the Persian Ministers issued two Vizirial letters to the Prince Governor of Fars instructing His Royal Highness to find out and deliver over the slaves in question, and to punish and fine the persons by whom they had been imported. But either in consequence of the style of language in which those letters were couched, or from the negligence and remissness of the Prince to whom they were addressed, not only was no result obtained, but latterly the persons who imported them have had the presumption to boast of their success in evading the orders which their own Government had issued prohibiting this nefarious Traffic by sea.

In the last communication I had the honour to address to your Highness, I stated, that if the Persian Ministers were to issue an order to the Governor of Fars to appoint a Mohessil to act in concert with another Mohessil named by the British Resident in Bushire in tracing the slaves, they would, I felt convinced, be forthcoming. But instead of this, your Highness sent me a Vizirial letter of nearly the same import as the two which preceded it; and as I feel assured that the dispatch of a letter of this nature would be fruitless, I have the honour to return it herewith to your Highness.

As I have reported to the Earl of Clarendon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the whole of the correspondence which had passed on this subject, I have now received from his Lordship an instruction to the following effect, that my proceedings in this matter had been approved, and that if on the receipt of the above despatch I had not received a satisfactory answer to the last note I had addressed to the Persian Government on the 7th of May, I should make a fresh application to your Highness on the part of Her Majesty's Government, requiring that the slaves should be produced, and that the Persian Government should insist upon their own orders being obeyed.

Now this instruction having been received by me, it is my duty after representing this circumstance to the Persian Government, to insist that they shall issue, as early as is possible, the most peremptory orders to whomsoever they may judge it expedient, that these slaves shall be produced and handed over to the British Resident at Bushire; and I feel persuaded, that if the Persian Government were to issue a peremptory order on this subject, stipulating that if by such a time these slaves are not produced in the place which has been appointed for their delivery, he will be considered culpable and punished accordingly, the slaves will be produced by the appointed day in whatever part of Persia they may at the present moment be.

CLASS B.

Inclosure 2 in No. 284.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

September 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your* letter of yesterday's date and understood its contents.

Although I had formerly forwarded to you a letter to the address of the Prince Governor of Fars, containing explanations on this subject and instructions for carrying into execution the stipulations of the Convention, you have thought right to return it to me in your note without sending it to its destination or waiting to see the result, saying, that you felt persuaded that no good result would be produced by its transmission. I have, therefore, the honour to acquaint you, in reply, that the Persian Ministers have always, so long as it was in their power, agreed to all the requests made by your mission, and you yourself are well aware that in this matter in particular very strenuous exertions have been made, and on several occasions numerous orders have been issued. But at the present moment, for certain reasons which I mentioned verbally to you, it is impossible and out of the power of the Persian Ministers to issue any commands to the Arabs in the Persian Ports of the Gulf. It is necessary that a little patience should be exercised until the present obstacles be removed, when our exertions will be renewed, and, whatever letters or orders are required for enforcing the stipulations of the Convention, will be, without any neglect or objection, issued. Although there has been not the slightest remissness in this affair heretofore, and investigations have been carried to the utmost in a way that it has been established that no case such as the alleged has occurred, still, when the times admit, further efforts will be made.

Inclosure 3 in No. 284.

Mr. Thomson to the Sedr Azim.

(Translation.)

September 16, 1854.

I HAVE received your Highness's letter relative to the slaves imported in the "*Mahmoodee*." You therein stated that you did not object to the renewal of exertions for their recovery; and I perceive with the highest satisfaction that the Persian Ministers seem earnestly disposed to bring this affair to a conclusion.

With regard, however, to deferring the execution of their orders for a future period, it is my duty to observe to your Highness that if the Persian Ministers give this matter a little reflection, they will find that it is an affair which does not concern the Arabs, nor is it necessary to postpone it. This much is requisite, that the Persian Ministers give such orders as will convince their servants of their determination to recover the slaves. It appears to me that the simplest way of attaining this object is to require that the person who has dared in this matter to infringe the orders of his Sovereign be made to produce the slaves; he undoubtedly is informed where the slaves are; if he has confided them to the care of any person, he can recover them from him; and if they are otherwise disposed of, the persons whose property they have become, have only to restore them and claim the amount they paid for them. I therefore request that the Persian Ministers will issue immediate orders for producing the above slaves and not listen to further excuses and pretexts, and thus satisfy the demand of the British Government.

* The title of "*Jerat*" is given in this and all subsequent letters.

No. 285.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st of September, respecting the affair of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*," and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the note which you addressed to the Sedr Azim on the 16th of September, and the course which you state that you intend to take with regard to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 286.

Mr. Thomson to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 10.)

My Lord,

Tehran, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose for your Lordship's information, translations of a further correspondence I have had with the Persian Prime Minister regarding the surrender of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*."

Although the Persian Government assume the position that slaves once landed in Persia, are not, by the terms of the Convention between the two countries, liable to seizure, they say that they have no objection to issue fresh orders to ascertain if the importation really took place; but that they are prevented from taking those steps at the present moment on account of the disturbed state of affairs in the ports of the Persian Gulf. As I am given to understand there is every probability that the Governor of Bushire would be unable to give effect at the present moment to the orders he might receive from the Government, and, as I have already reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 21st of September, the Prime Minister has also verbally promised to do all in his power to recover the slaves, I have thought it more judicious not to insist on their adopting immediate measures, but I have signified to them that I expect the Government will, within three months from this date, place me in the position of being able to report to your Lordship that the wishes of the British Government on this head have been fulfilled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WM. TAYLOUR THOMSON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 286.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

September 22, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your letter of the 16th of September, regarding the "*Mahmoodee*." You have stated therein that you desired the Persian Ministers should issue peremptory orders and require these slaves to be produced by their own servants; the other remarks you made do not require to be repeated by me in this letter.

I beg to reply that the perusal of your note has caused the greatest surprise to the Persian Ministers, because from the manner in which it was worded it would appear that you believed the truth of the importation of the slaves in the above vessel to have been established, and that the only thing wanted was that the Persian Ministers should issue an order; while, after the correspondence which has already taken place on this subject, and the documents produced as evidence and forwarded to you, there is no room for your entertaining any doubts that this accusation has been brought forward without any foundation, and that there is no truth in it. The Persian Ministers have reason to know that their subject is without guilt, and this ought to be considered sufficient; besides, in the Convention which the Persian Ministers, solely to give satisfaction to the English Government, gave at Ispahan regarding slaves, in no way is it specified that the right of search is to be in force on land, nor are the masters of slaves in the interior of the country to be called to account. This right is solely applicable to the search of ships at sea, which is clearly proved by the instructions given to the Meerza Mahmood Khan (Persian Slave Trade Commissioner), and the nomination of four other subordinate officers to accompany that person. But merely on account of the friendly request made by you, and without its being a right to which you were entitled, the Persian Ministers stated that they would not object to another investigation and search being made on the subject, although they could not do so at the present moment on account of the disturbed state of the ports in the Gulf, and the confusion prevailing amongst the Arabs and distressed merchants of the country, because it would have the effect of increasing the estrangement now existing (between these people and the Government) and of rendering them more intractable.

Notwithstanding all this, it is strange, in the first place, that you should listen to the statement of the master of the vessel "*Mahmoodee*," a man who is well known to be interested in the matter and without character, and that you should consider as valueless the accurate information possessed by the Persian Ministers, and the statement of their officers together with the documents which have been produced in evidence. And, secondly, that although you and the English authorities are perfectly well acquainted with the disorders in the gulf in its fullest details, you should propose that an order should be issued which would add to the distress of the inhabitants of the ports.

If you are desirous that another effort should be made in inquiring into and searching, at all events it must be after tranquillity has been established in these ports; and this renewal of the search must not be considered to confer any right for the future further than the right stipulated in the Convention. At this time, on all these grounds, the Persian Ministers must certainly be held excused. The traders and merchants who are looking for help to this Government, cannot have an order of this kind imposed upon them and distress brought upon them, for it would be foreign to the rules of justice and equity.

Inclosure 2 in No. 286.

Mr. Thomson to the Sadr Azim.

(Translation.)

September 25, 1854.

I HAVE received your Highness's letter regarding the slaves imported in the "*Mahmoodee*."

With regard to what is therein stated, that the disturbances in the ports of the Gulf would not allow investigation to be made, or this matter to be terminated, I am not ignorant of some of the ports in the Persian Gulf being in a state of disorder; but after examining the matter in every point of view, I am totally at a loss to discover what connection this affair of the slaves can have with the disturbed state of these ports. The fact of this importation having actually taken place has been established in such a way that there is no room for denying

it; but as the Persian Ministers have requested some delay in carrying out the matter, although my belief still is, as I formerly stated, that if the Persian Government desired peremptorily to have these slaves produced, it might be effected in a very short space of time, in order that it may be made clear for every one whether the Persian Ministers exert themselves to fulfil the engagement they have made in this matter to the extent which they ought or not, I will not for the present take any further steps, but I shall expect that in the space of three months the Persian Ministers will supply me with documentary proof that this request which has been made by the British Ministers to those of the Shah has been brought to a satisfactory termination, so that I may have it in my power to convey the announcement of it to my Government. I will only add, that should this not have been done within the term specified, which is amply sufficient for concluding the affair with perfect facility, I shall then be obliged to attribute the failure to the want of exertion and inclination of the Persian Ministers themselves, and I shall then report that such is the case to my Government. I am sanguine, however, that by the efforts which the Persian Ministers will make, I shall be enabled to report the matter to the British Government as terminated satisfactorily.

Inclosure 3 in No. 286.

The Sedr Azim to Mr. Thomson.

(Translation.)

October 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your letter regarding the "*Mahmoodee*," and I have understood its contents perfectly. This time the surprise felt by the Persian Ministers has been augmented by the contents of your last communication on this subject, at your, without any right, specifying a time for arranging this business. It is clear that you did not peruse my former letter properly, for the answer is not relevant to the question, and if you will again refer to it, this will be perceived by you, that it is stated therein that according to the stipulations of the Convention regarding Slaves which was agreed to by this Government merely to gratify the British Ministers, you have no right to say anything about slaves when they are on the land, or to make any communication about them. From Bushire to Meshed, and throughout Persia, there are numbers of slaves to be found, but no one has any right to make any remonstrance about one of them, or to make any inquiry as to when they came from the sea. The Convention has reference solely to the sea, and on this account was Meerza Mahmood Khan with several subordinates appointed to their posts.

If the Persian Ministers have before now, on two occasions, as the times allowed and they found it convenient, at your friendly request, made investigations, although strict inquiries had been previously instituted which proved that there was no foundation for the accusation, there can be no room for considering as insufficient the accurate knowledge which the Persian Ministers have acquired (on the subject) and which is quite sufficient in all matters concerning the internal affairs of the kingdom, and for advancing such a peremptory demand with the time specified as if all the right were on your side.

Although the Persian Ministers do not consider you to have any claim to the matter for the above reasons, and do not in any way consent to the term being specified, still, as friendship demands, they do not object, whenever the time is favourable, to renew the investigation, although they feel persuaded that the importation never took place, ample proofs being in their possession, of which copies have been sent to you already.

No. 287.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Thomson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of October, stating that you considered it inexpedient to insist upon the adoption by the Persian Government of immediate measures for the recovery of the slaves imported in the ship "*Mahmoodee*," and I have to acquaint you that I approve of the view which you have taken of this matter, and of the note which you addressed thereupon to the Sedr Azim on the 25th of September.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

PERU.

No. 288.

Mr. Sullivan to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 1, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lima, November 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship a translation of a Decree of the President of Peru, of the 19th of November last, offering great advantages to all those who will enlist for the purpose of forming a Corps of Reserve. The Decree proceeds to state, that all the domestic slaves and those at present employed on farms, may receive their own freedom and that of their wives, if they consent to serve for two years.

The Decree abovementioned is a heavy blow to that system of slavery which has hitherto been carried on throughout Peru; but as the compensation to be granted to the slave-owners is more apparent than real, the landed proprietors, who are all slave-owners, are on this account much enraged against the Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. H. SULLIVAN.

Inclosure in No. 288.

Decree.

(Translation.)

MANUEL SUAREZ, General of Brigade of the National Army, Prefect and Commandant-General of the Department, &c.

Considering:—

That the authorities are bound to cooperate to the utmost with the legitimate President of the Republic in his endeavours to save the institutions of the country, with this object the Government have issued the following Decree:

José Rufino Echenique, President of the Republic, &c.

Considering:—

1st. That it is the duty of the Government to secure the triumph of the institutions of the country and of social order, by the adoption of all the measures which may be necessary to preserve the Republic against any future event which may take place, and to prevent in any case that rebellion and anarchy should predominate.

2nd. That to this end it is necessary to raise and organize an army of reserve.

3rd. That if in the present great crisis in the country, which threatens its laws, its political existence for the future, and its independence, supreme and conservative measures are needed, it is requisite to reconcile them with other social wants, which remedy humanity and the progress of the age demand in making the first preparations for the manumission of the slaves, which later will become more general.

In virtue of the extraordinary powers conceded to me, I decree:

Art. 1. Every soldier who may at any time have deserted from the service,

shall present himself to any one of the corps of the army, and shall be exempt from the punishment to which he may have rendered himself liable.

Art. 2. Every soldier, sergeant or corporal, who may have obtained his discharge, and shall present himself, in order to serve only during the period of the present state of affairs, shall receive a gratification of ten dollars.

Art. 3. Every private individual who may wish to enter the service for the same period, shall receive a similar gratification, and shall, besides, be exempt for ever from the payment of all contributions or patents, and shall, on the information of the Prefect or the head of the Staff of the Army, immediately receive the requisite document to that effect from the Treasury of the Department.

Art. 4. Every household slave, and every slave employed in the cultivation of land, who may enter the service of the army, shall obtain his freedom by this very fact, and the boon shall be extended to his legitimate wife; he shall present himself before the General of the Staff, or to the Sub-Prefects, or to the Special Commissioners, who shall be appointed for this object; and who shall give a report to the General of the Staff, through the office of the Prefect, so that the certificate of freedom may be immediately given whenever the slave shall apply for it.

Art. 5. The term of service required of the slaves in consideration of the favour accorded to them shall be two years.

Art. 6. The masters of the slaves shall be indemnified for their value; for which a promissory note of the State shall be given upon the presentation of the respective documents of ownership to the Sub-Prefectures or Treasury.

The Minister of State in the Department of War and Marine is charged with the execution of this Decree, together with its publication and circulation.

Given at the Government Palace in Lima, 18th November, 1854.

(Signed) JOSE RUFINO ECHENIQUE.

(Countersigned) ANTONIO GUTIERREZ DE LA FUENTE.

In consequence of the foregoing, I direct that it be made public, promulgated, and made generally known to the slaves in every possible manner.

Given at the office of the Prefect in Lima, on the 19th November, 1854.

(Signed) MANUEL SUAREZ.

PORTUGAL.

No. 289.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, March 28, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of 11th March,* and in obedience to the instructions contained in it, I have again conveyed to the Viscount d'Athoguia the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the orders lately issued, in conformity with your Lordship's wishes, for the expulsion of the slave-trader Flores from Loanda, and for facilitating communication between Her Majesty's Commissioners and the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships and the Governor-General of Angola.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 290.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 15, 1854.

IN your despatch of this series of the 28th of January last,† you informed me that you had communicated to the Viscount d'Athoguia a memorandum containing the substance of the information which you had received from Mr. Consul Johnston, relative to the equipment at Oporto of the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," two vessels which were supposed to have been intended for the Slave Trade; and you stated that if that information should be followed up by proceedings on the part of the public authorities it might be the means of bringing to justice some of the parties concerned in those vessels.

I have to desire that you will acquaint me whether the Portuguese Government have taken any measures with regard to this matter, and, if so, whether those measures have been attended with any result.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 291.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, April 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 16th of last month, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of 20th February,‡ signifying to the Portuguese Government that Her Majesty's Government had approved of the conduct of Lieutenant Pearse, commanding Her Majesty's ship "*Atholl*," in resisting an attempt on the part of the Commander of the Portuguese war-schooner "*Conde do Tojal*," to board an English merchant-vessel in the port of Ambriz.

I have the honour, also, to inclose a copy and a translation of a note in reply, from the Viscount d'Athoguia.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 379.

† *Ibid.*, No. 363.

‡ *Ibid.*, No. 368.

Inclosure 1 in No. 291.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, March 16, 1854.

HIS Most Faithful Majesty's Government will no doubt have received from the officer commanding the Portuguese naval force on the west coast of Africa, copies of a correspondence which took place in the month of November last, between Lieutenant Pearse, commanding Her Majesty's sloop "Athol," and the officer commanding His Most Faithful Majesty's schooner of war "Conde do Tojal," respecting a right asserted by the latter officer to board an English merchant-vessel which was lying in the port of Ambriz, in company with Her Majesty's sloop "Athol," which pretension was resisted by the Commander of the "Athol."

This case having been brought to the notice of Her Majesty's Government by the Admiral commanding on the west coast of Africa, I am instructed to acquaint your Excellency that the conduct of Lieutenant Pearse in resisting the attempt to board a British merchant-vessel lying in the harbour of Ambriz in company with a British vessel of war, has received the approval of Her Majesty's Government.

Her Majesty's Government have, at the same time, had much satisfaction in observing the spirit of courtesy and mutual respect in which the proceedings were carried on on both sides in this affair.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 291.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, March 24, 1854

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which you were pleased to write to me on the 16th instant, bringing to my knowledge the information received by your Government respecting the agreement which took place between the Commander of His Majesty's ship "Conde do Tojal" and Lieutenant Pearse, Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Athol," with regard to an English merchant-vessel anchored at Ambriz.

In thanking you for this communication, it becomes my duty to state to you that it has afforded His Majesty's Government much pleasure to learn the satisfactory manner in which an officer of the Royal Navy of Portugal conducted himself on that occasion; I immediately communicated your said note to the Marine Department for the appropriate ends.

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

No. 292.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, April 8, 1854.

BY your Lordship's despatch of 21st November last,* I had the satisfaction of learning that your Lordship approved of my having suggested to the Portuguese Government the expediency of immediately carrying into effect, with regard to the port of Angoxa, the provisions of the Decree of 18th October last, by which the Governor-General of Mozambique was empowered to open a number of ports in that province to foreign commerce. I now beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which, in consequence of such approval, I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 30th December last, repeating in

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 338.

a more formal way, and in the name of Her Majesty's Government, my suggestion with regard to Angoxa.

I have the honour also to inclose a translation of a note from the Viscount d'Athoquia, informing me that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government are prepared to act upon the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government upon this subject, by instructing the Governor-General of Mozambique immediately to carry the proposed measure into effect, for which purpose he will be authorised "to make use of an armed force if peradventure the people who rule at Angoxa, and there carry on the Slave Trade, should offer resistance to the new order of things," with the expectation, however, that Her Majesty's Government, appreciating the resolution referred to, and the "lively desire which animates the Portuguese Government to promote lawful commerce in that province, and to contribute in every way to the complete abolition of the wicked Traffic in Slaves, will send the necessary orders to the Commander of Her Majesty's naval force on the east coast of Africa to assist the Governor-General, if such cooperation should be required for the object in view."

The Viscount d'Athoquia goes on to say, that as soon as he is informed of the issue of such instructions he will send intelligence of the fact to the Governor-General of Mozambique through the Marine Department.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 292.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, December 30, 1854.

ON the 24th of last month I had the honour to place in your Excellency's hands a memorandum expressing the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government had heard of the recent Decrees of the Government of Portugal, having for their object the encouragement of lawful commerce in the important Province of Mozambique, by causing additional ports to be open to foreign trade. Among the ports which it was proposed by the Decree of 18th October last thus to open to trade is that of Angoxa, which place it has been represented to Her Majesty's Government possesses elements for an extensive commerce, if they were developed by the establishment of lawful intercourse with that part of the Portuguese possessions.

The only trade said to be now carried on there is the Slave Trade which cannot be more effectually prevented than by encouraging the native inhabitants to turn their attention to legitimate commerce.

From these considerations Her Majesty's Government direct me to suggest to your Excellency the expediency of making the port of Angoxa one of the first to receive the benefit of the wise and judicious provision of the Decree of 18th October.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 292.

Viscount d'Athoquia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, March 30, 1854.

I HAD the honour to receive the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 30th December of last year, in which, referring to the provisions of the Decree of the 17th of October of that year, published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 24th of the same month, you set forth the suitability of opening at once to the commerce of all nations the port of Angoxa, in the Province of Mozambique. In answer, I have to state to you that His Majesty's Government duly appreciating, and returning thanks for, the valuable information contained in your above-mentioned note, and conforming to the report of the

Ultramarine Council on this subject, have commanded by a Portaria dated 15th instant, issued to the Governor-General of that province, the adoption and execution of the above measure, authorising him at once to employ armed force in case the people who rule at Angoxa, and carry on the Trade in Slaves should oppose any resistance to the new order of things.

His Majesty's Government, trusting that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will recognise in this resolution the lively wish which they entertain to promote legal commerce in that province, and to contribute all the means in their power towards the total abolition of the abominable Traffic in Slaves, hope that at the same time Her Britannic Majesty's Government will be willing to issue the necessary instructions to the Commander of the British naval force cruizing on the eastern coast of Africa, for aiding the said Governor-General should he require his cooperation for the desired result.

As soon as you have the goodness to inform me that the above instructions have been issued, I will hasten to bring the same to the knowledge of the Governor-General, through the medium of the Marine Department.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 293.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 21, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th instant,* stating that the Portuguese Government intend to open the port of Angoxa on the east coast of Africa to foreign commerce. I have to instruct you to inform the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the British Commodore on the Cape of Good Hope Station has already been instructed to take such measures as may seem to him best calculated to encourage the disposition of the Sultan of Angoxa to suppress the Slave Trade; and that he will now be informed that the Portuguese Government have issued orders to the Governor-General of Mozambique to open the port of Angoxa to the commerce of all nations, and that he should, if necessary, afford friendly advice to the Sultan in this matter, and recommend him to cooperate in promoting the success of the intended measure.

You will, however, let the Portuguese Minister clearly understand, that whilst Her Majesty's Government will be glad to afford all the assistance in their power to the Governor-General of Mozambique in suppressing the Slave Trade and promoting legitimate commerce at Angoxa, if the Portuguese authority is fully established there, they cannot aid in the nominal extension of Portuguese dominion over an indefinite range of country, particularly when Her Majesty's cruisers are no longer empowered to act for the suppression of Slave Trade when there are no established Portuguese authorities.

No. 294.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 1, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information and for communication to the Portuguese Government, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, reporting that two cargoes of slaves had been recently shipped from Benguella, and stating that there is every reason to apprehend the revival of Slave Trade to a considerable extent on that coast.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 291.

† See Class A, No. 48.

No. 295.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 4.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant, by which I am directed to report to your Lordship, whether, in consequence of the information contained in a memorandum which I delivered some time ago to the Viscount d'Athoguia, the Portuguese Government have taken any measures with regard to the equipment of two vessels at Oporto, the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," supposed to have been destined for the Slave Trade, and whether those measures have been attended with any result.

Up to this moment nothing has come to my knowledge to lead to the belief that any progress has been made in establishing a case against the persons concerned in the equipment of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*."

The vessels having in fact sailed from Oporto before anything was said of the guilty character of the enterprise, there was necessarily the more difficulty in obtaining proof of a variety of circumstances, which, had the vessels been detained in time, could hardly have failed, with common honesty and zeal on the part of the public authorities, to furnish grounds for serious proceedings against the parties concerned.

From time to time questions have been put to the Ministers in both Chambers of the Cortes, as to what has been done for the detection and punishment of the delinquents in this apparently scandalous business; but the answers have been of a vague and general character, proving, I should say, how superior the power and influence of the slave-trading interest at Oporto are, to the preventive resources of the Government in matters of this kind.

Under these circumstances, in order, if possible, to obtain the means of satisfying the inquiry contained in your Lordship's despatch, I have addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia the note of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, which I humbly hope will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM

 Inclosure in No. 295.
Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

(Extract.)

Lisbon, April 24, 1854.

ON the 27th of January last I had the honour to place in your Excellency's hands a memorandum respecting the equipment of the two vessels the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which had then lately sailed from Oporto, supposed to be destined for the Slave Trade.

This same information it became my duty to transmit to Her Majesty's Government, expressing at the same time the opinion, that if it should be followed up by diligent proceedings on the part of the public authorities, it might be the means of bringing to justice some of the persons concerned in those criminal transactions.

I need not to inform your Excellency that the reports which appeared in the public papers of the equipment in such an open and undisguised manner of two vessels, generally believed to be intended for the Slave Trade, and the notice which was taken of the affair in the Portuguese Chambers, attracted a great deal of attention in England, and have caused much anxiety to Her Majesty's Government on account of the presumption which they furnish, that there are still persons in this country who devote their time and their capital to the prosecution of the Slave Trade; and what is more to be lamented, that these operations are carried on with little fear, on the part of those concerned, of detection or punishment.

Her Majesty's Government therefore instruct me to report what are the measures which have been taken by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government

in the matter of the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," and whether those measures have been attended with any result.

Your Excellency will do me a great favour by supplying me with the means of answering this inquiry on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

No. 296.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note which you addressed on the 24th ultimo to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, requesting to be informed what steps had been taken by the Portuguese Government with regard to the persons concerned in the suspected slavers "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which lately sailed from Oporto; and I have in reply to inform you that I approve your note to Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 297.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, May 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 17th, 18th, and 21st of April.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in the first part of your Lordship's despatch of the 21st April, relative to the extent of the assistance which Her Majesty's Government are disposed to afford to the Portuguese Government, in carrying out the arrangements for opening the port of Angoxa on the east coast of Africa to foreign commerce, by placing in the hands of the Viscount d'Athoguia the note a copy of which is herewith submitted.

The instructions contained in a later part of the same despatch I thought it better to make the subject of a separate communication, a copy of which I have also the honour to submit.

Inclosure 1 in No. 297.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia

Sir,

Lisbon, May 3, 1854.

I DULY transmitted to Her Majesty's Government the note which your Excellency was pleased to address to me on the 30th of last March, in answer to my note of 30th December preceding, relative to the opening of the port of Angoxa on the east coast of Africa to foreign trade, in which note your Excellency expresses the desire of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government that Her Majesty's Government should direct the Commander of Her Majesty's Naval Forces in those seas to assist the Governor-General of Mozambique in such measures as it may be necessary to adopt to give effect to that measure.

And I am now commanded to inform your Excellency that it is already some time since the British Commodore on the Cape of Good Hope Station was instructed to take such measures as might seem to him best calculated to encourage the disposition manifested by the Sultan of Angoxa to suppress the Slave Trade, and that the same officer will now be informed that the Portuguese Government have issued orders to the Governor-General of Mozambique to open the port of Angoxa to the commerce of all nations, and

that he should, if necessary, afford friendly advice to the Sultan in this matter, and recommend to him to cooperate in promoting the success of the intended measure.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 297.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Atfogoia.

(Extract.)

Lisbon, May 3, 1854.

WITH reference to what I have the honour to say to your Excellency in a note dated this day, on the subject of the measures which it may be necessary to take to induce the Sultan of Angoxa to conform to the views of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, for the encouragement of legitimate commerce at that place, and for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I am commanded further to explain to your Excellency very distinctly, that whilst Her Majesty's Government will be glad to afford all the assistance in their power to the Governor-General of Mozambique, in suppressing the Slave Trade and promoting legitimate commerce at Angoxa, if the Portuguese authority is fully established there, they cannot aid in the nominal extension of the Portuguese dominion over an indefinite range of country, particularly since the Portuguese Government are no longer willing that Her Majesty's cruizers should be empowered to act for the suppression of the Slave Trade where there are no established Portuguese authorities.

Inclosure 3 in No. 297.

Viscount d'Atfogoia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, May 5, 1854.

I HAVE before me the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of 3rd instant, in answer to the one which I sent you on the 30th March last, acquainting you for the information of your Government with the resolution taken by Her Majesty's Government of opening the port of Angoxa to the commerce of all nations, and expressing in the name of the Government, the wish that Her Britannic Majesty's Government, seeing by this measure their extreme desire to contribute towards the total abolition of the Slave Trade in the Province of Mozambique, and to promote legal commerce, should cause the necessary instructions to be given to the Commander of the British naval forces cruizing on the east coast of Africa, to assist the Governor of that province, should he require his cooperation for the end in view.

Taking cognizance of the contents of the said note, and of the orders which the British Government were about to issue to the abovementioned Commander, and thanking you for this communication, I have the honour to acquaint you that on this date I address a communication to the Marine Department, in order that the said Governor may be informed of the same.

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

No. 298.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 13.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, May 8, 1854.

WITH my despatch of the 28th April, I had the honour to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th April, I had addressed to the Viscount

d'Athoguia for the purpose of ascertaining from his Excellency whether any measures had been taken in consequence of the information lately communicated by me to his Excellency, to bring to justice the persons concerned in the equipment of two vessels the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto, destined, as is universally believed, for the Slave Trade.

I have now the honour to inclose a translation of a note from the Viscount d'Athoguia, in reply to my note of the 24th April, in which it is stated, that through the Departments of Marine and Foreign Affairs orders have been issued to the civil and military authorities in the Portuguese ultra-marine possessions and in the ports of Brazil, to watch carefully, and to ascertain whether the vessels in question have appeared in those parts, the same orders having been given to the cruisers of the Royal Navy, without any intelligence having as yet been received of what may have become of the vessels.

But the memorandum furnished by me, to which reference is made in this note of the Viscount d'Athoguia, contained no information of a nature requiring the cognizance of the ultra-marine authorities or the commanders of the Portuguese cruisers; it related exclusively to matters connected with the equipment of the two vessels at Oporto, the investigation of which ought to have been committed to the authorities of that place.

I have hastened to rectify the mistake thus made by the Viscount d'Athoguia by an explanatory note, of which I have the honour herewith to submit a copy, and in which I point out to his Excellency that it may not be, even now, too late to make use of the information contained in the memorandum of 27th January; observing, at the same time, that however desirable it may be that success should attend the orders to the civil and military authorities abroad, of which mention is made in his Excellency's note, it is equally, or perhaps more, important that the original delinquents in this criminal enterprise, that is to say, the owners or employers of the two ships whose residence is supposed to be within the Kingdom of Portugal, should be detected and made to pay the penalty of their offence.

Inclosure 1 in No. 298.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Palace, May 1, 1854.

I HAVE received the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 24th April, last, in which referring to the information which you had previously communicated to me, relating to the equipment of the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," you request to be enabled to transmit to your Government, in accordance with your instructions, the requisite information with regard to the measures taken by Her Majesty's Government respecting the said vessels, and the results which may have been obtained from such measures.

Having read the said note with due attention, I have the honour to state to you, that through the Departments of Marine and of Foreign Affairs, the most stringent orders have been issued to their delegates, both civil and military, in the Portuguese ultra-marine possessions and in the ports of Brazil, to keep a strict look-out for these two vessels, in order to ascertain whether they have arrived; similar instructions having also been furnished to the cruisers of the Royal Navy of Portugal; and that up to the present no news of the destination of these vessels has been received.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 298.

*Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.**Lisbon, May 4, 1854.*

Sir,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's note dated 1st of this month, in which, in answer to my note of 24th April last, having for its object to ascertain, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, what were the measures taken by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the discovery of the persons concerned in the criminal enterprise of fitting out the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," two vessels which sailed some time ago from Oporto, destined, as it is now universally believed, for the Slave Trade, your Excellency is pleased to state that the most positive orders were issued through the Departments of Marine and Foreign Affairs to the civil and military authorities in the ultra-marine possessions of Portugal, closely to watch and ascertain whether these vessels should touch at such places; similar orders having likewise been issued to the cruizers of the Royal Navy of Portugal, without any intelligence having as yet been received as to the destination of these said vessels.

I shall not fail to transmit your Excellency's note, to which I have the honour to reply, to Her Majesty's Government, in order that they may be informed of the steps taken by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for the purpose of counteracting the wicked intentions of the persons concerned in the equipment of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," but your Excellency must pardon me for remarking that your Excellency appears, no doubt in the hurry of business, to have overlooked the nature of the information communicated by me on the 27th of January, to which reference is made in my late note of 24th April.

I beg leave now to inclose a duplicate of that communication and I would request your Excellency to have the goodness to observe that the statement therein contained, relates not to matters properly coming under the cognizance of the civil and military authorities of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty's ultra-marine possessions, or of the commanders of His Majesty's cruizers, but to things connected with the equipment of the two suspected vessels within the jurisdiction of the authorities of Oporto, the names of several persons being furnished who are supposed to have taken an active part in supplying the vessels with articles such as are only used on a slaving voyage, and of others who are accused by public opinion at Oporto of being actually concerned in slave-trading transactions.

It was with regard to the use which His Most Faithful Majesty's Government might have made of the information thus communicated, and with what result, that I was instructed by the Earl of Clarendon to make inquiry of your Excellency, and I beg leave now with due deference to suggest that it may not, even at this hour, be too late to endeavour to follow up the clue thus given to several things relating to the equipment of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*." It is of course earnestly to be desired that the orders already given through the Foreign Department and the Marine Department of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, may lead to the intended result, but I submit that it is a matter of equal, perhaps indeed of greater, importance, that the principal authors of the crime, the owners of the vessel and the persons employed in various ways to fit them out, should not escape detection and punishment.

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

No. 299.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant,* inclosing copies of two notes which, in execution of the instructions contained in my despatch to you of the 21st ultimo, you addressed on the 3rd instant to the Viscount d'Athoguia, informing his Excellency to what extent the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces on the Cape of Good Hope Station will be instructed by Her Majesty's Government to cooperate with the Governor-General of Mozambique towards opening the port of Angoxa to foreign commerce. And I have in reply to inform you that I approve of the manner in which you have carried out my instructions on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 300.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant,† inclosing a copy of a note dated the 1st instant which you had received from the Viscount d'Athoguia, informing you that instructions had been issued to the Portuguese Colonial authorities, and to the Commanders of Portuguese cruisers abroad, to watch for the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto, as there was reason to believe, on a slave-trading voyage. And I have to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed on the 4th instant to Viscount d'Athoguia in reply, pointing out to his Excellency that it was of greater importance that an investigation should be set on foot at Oporto, with the view of bringing to justice the persons concerned in the equipment of those vessels.

I transmit to you, at the same time, copies of a despatch‡ and of its inclosure which I have received from Mr. Howard, &c., stating that he has been informed by the Brazilian Government that the two vessels in question, after touching in Brazil, proceeded to the Portuguese Settlement of Novo Redondo, on the west coast of Africa, where they succeeded in embarking two cargoes of African slaves, with which they sailed towards Cuba.

I have to instruct you to communicate this information to the Viscount d'Athoguia, and to call his Excellency's serious attention to Mr. Howard's observations as to the manner in which the efforts now made by the Brazilian Government to put an end to the African Slave Trade are obstructed and discouraged by the impunity with which the slave-dealers are permitted to fit out their expeditions in the ports of Portugal, and are also enabled to carry away Africans for sale from the Portuguese Settlements in Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 301.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 19, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence respecting a licence which has been granted by the Portuguese Government to Don Souza e Almeida, a Portuguese subject at Benguella, to remove his negroes, under certain conditions,

* No. 297.

† No. 298.

‡ No. 86.

from that place to Prince's Island, I now transmit to you for your information a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing information as to the character and proceedings of Senhor Almeida.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 302.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing their report on the state of the Slave Trade in that neighbourhood during the year 1853.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 303.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 1st and 8th instant.

I fulfil the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant by addressing a note to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, communicating to him the substance of what is stated in the despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, dated 20th February, a copy of which accompanies your Lordship's despatch, relative to the renewed activity of the Slave Trade in the district of Benguella, and the consequently disastrous state of things prevailing in that part of the Portuguese dominions.

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

No. 304.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Count de Lavradio.

Foreign Office, May 24, 1854.

THE Undersigned &c., has the honour to acquaint the Count de Lavradio &c., that he has referred to the proper Department of Her Majesty's Government, the note from Count Lavradio of the 16th of January last,† referring to a trial which took place in August 1853, before the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission at Loanda, in the case of the Portuguese schooner "Aguia," and calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the contents of a declaration made on the 16th of August, 1853, by Antonio Alvez de Amorim, the master of the "Aguia," who stated that the English prize crew

* See Class A, No. 49.

† Ibid., No. 56.

‡ See Class B, presented 1854, No. 353.

which was on board that vessel, took on shore at Loanda, and there sold for a dollar each, some pieces of cloth belonging to the cargo, of which sale Amorim suspected that the English prize-master was cognizant.

The Undersigned begs leave to acquaint Count Lavradio that Mr. Kidd, the officer in question, has been called upon to answer the above-mentioned charge; and the Undersigned has now the honour to inclose copies of Mr. Kidd's answer, and of the affidavit therein referred to, in which documents that officer states that, having been obliged on account of the length of the voyage to procure a supply of water at Mayumba, he there parted with a portion of the cloth which was on board the "*Aguia*," in order to pay for the water, but he distinctly denies the truth of the statement, that either he or any of the British prize-crew, either took on shore, or sold at Loanda, any part of the cargo of that vessel.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 304.

Mr. Kidd to Commodore Kitchen.

Sir,

"*Alecto*," *Ascension*, March 1854.

WITH reference to the charge made against myself and the prize crew of the "*Aguia*," by the master of the said vessel—

I have the honour to state, that the only part of the cargo that left the vessel, or was taken from her whilst in my charge, with my knowledge or permission, were those which I mentioned in my declaration before the Court, marked F.

On the master of the vessel making the charge before the Court, I reported the circumstance to Commander Miller, Her Majesty's brig "*Crane*," then at anchor in the harbour of St. Paul's de Loanda, and the whole of the crew denied, in his presence, having done anything of the sort.

Also previous to the men leaving the vessel, on her delivery to the Marshal of the Court, I registered, in the presence of my advocate and the interpreter, that the men's bags may be searched to see that they took no part of the cargo from the vessel.

I can therefore declare, that neither myself nor to my knowledge did any of the prize-crew, sell or take any part of the vessel's cargo. The Portuguese crew were the only men, to my knowledge, that took any clothes from the vessel, which the master of the vessel said belonged to them.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOHN OUGHTON KIDD.

No. 305.

Count Lavradio to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Portuguese Legation, London, May 26, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., addressed to him, on the 24th instant, in answer to that which the Undersigned had addressed to his Excellency on the 16th of January last.

The Undersigned is about to transmit immediately to his Government the two documents which accompanied the note above referred to, and which the Undersigned abstains from discussing, confining himself simply to observing that those two documents will necessarily appear in the process instituted, in

conformity with the Laws of Portugal, against the parties accused of having committed, or connived at, the robbery on board the vessel "*Aguia*," according to the declaration made at Loanda on the 16th of August, 1853, before the Portuguese and British Mixed Commission, by Antonio Alvez Martino, master of the vessel in question.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) LAVRADIO.

No. 306.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854:

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, a copy of a letter,* with its inclosures, addressed to Commodore Talbot, late commanding in chief Her Majesty's squadron on the Cape of Good Hope Station, by Commander Morris, of Her Majesty's ship "*Hydra*," reporting the circumstances under which he boarded the Portuguese Government schooner "*Quarto d'Avril*," in the Mozambique Channel, on the 4th of February last. And I have to desire that you will make known to the Portuguese Government the circumstances under which Commander Morris boarded the vessel in question.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 307.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, dated the 24th March last, reporting that the Portuguese naval force in the Province of Angola had been reduced to one brig of war, the "*Serra do Pilar*."

I have to desire that you will communicate to the Portuguese Government the information contained in the inclosed despatch, and that you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa may be reinforced.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 308.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 1, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 1st and 18th of May, respecting the revival of the Slave Trade at Benguella, I transmit herewith copies of two despatches‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, containing further information

* Class A, No. 124.

† See Class A, No. 59.

‡ See Class A, Nos. 58 and 61.

relative to the shipment of slaves from that district, and I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Viscount d'Athoquia to the confirmation which the despatch from the Commissioners of the 23rd of March affords of the statement inclosed in my despatch of the 18th ultimo as to the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which were so openly equipped at Oporto for the Slave Trade, having carried away cargoes of slaves from Novo Redondo.

You will also point out to his Excellency, with reference to the concluding paragraph of the inclosed despatch of the 30th of March, the evil effects which the revival of the Slave Trade in Angola has had upon the legitimate commerce between Portugal and the ports of Loanda and Benguella; and you will express the hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty will select for the post of Governor-General of Angola, an officer whose previous reputation and energetic qualities may leave no doubt upon the minds of the slave-dealers as to his determination to remove from that province the disgrace which will permanently attach to its Government, if it should continue, as lately, to permit the revival of this desolating Traffic.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 309.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 8, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of three important Decrees* with regard to slavery in Cuba, which were signed by the Queen of Spain on the 22nd of March last, and which are intended to promote the employment of slaves in agricultural labour, the protection of free labourers coming from foreign countries, and the registration of slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 310.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 14, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith, an extract, and a copy of two despatches† which I have received from Mr. Rendall, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Vincent's, respecting the exportation of slaves from Bissao and Cacheu to Cuba, and also to the Cape Verd Islands, and stating that a schooner intended for the Cuba Slave Trade is being built at Bissao.

I have to instruct you to call the serious attention of the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs to these statements. And you will at the same time point out to his Excellency the expediency of following the example of the Spanish Government, by establishing a system of registration of slaves in the Cape Verd Islands, in order that the authorities of those islands may be enabled effectually to control the illegal importation of new slaves which is reported in Mr. Rendall's despatch of the 11th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Inclosures in No. 384.

† Nos. 366 and 368.

No. 311.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 14.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 2nd of this month to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 24th ultimo.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in that dated the 18th ultimo, communicating to the Portuguese Government the information contained in Mr. Howard's despatch relative to two vessels the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," which sailed some time ago from Oporto, fitted for the Slave Trade; and expressing the hope of Her Majesty's Government that, with such evidence before them of the inadequacy of the measures hitherto adopted to prevent such criminal operations, His Most Faithful Majesty's advisers will be disposed to devise the means of efficiently fulfilling the obligations of this country for the prevention of the Slave Trade, as well in what relates to the equipment of slave-vessels in the ports of Portugal, as to the shipment of negroes for sale from the Portuguese possessions in Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 312.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 18, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 31st of May and 1st of June.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in these despatches, by informing the Portuguese Government of the circumstances under which Commander Morris, of Her Majesty's ship "*Hydra*," was induced to board the Portuguese Government schooner "*Quarto d'Abril*," in the month of July last, in the Mozambique Channel; and by signifying to the Viscount d'Athoguia the expectation of Her Majesty's Government that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will make arrangements to reinforce the Portuguese naval force on the west coast of Africa, now reduced to a single brig of war, the "*Serra do Pilar*."

I beg leave to submit copies of the notes which I have addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia upon these two subjects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 312.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 13, 1854.

I AM directed by Her Majesty's Government to place in your Excellency's hands copies of a letter and of its inclosures addressed to Commodore Talbot, late Commanding-in-chief Her Majesty's Squadron on the Cape of Good Hope Station, by Commander Morris, of Her Majesty's ship "*Hydra*," reporting the circumstances under which he was induced to board the Portuguese Government schooner "*Quarto d'Abril*," in the Mozambique Channel, on the 4th July last.

Your Excellency will perceive that the error into which Commander

Morris was led in boarding this vessel, arose from her displaying no pendant, nor presenting in any other way the appearance of a vessel belonging to His Most Faithful Majesty's navy.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 312.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 13, 1854.

BY advices lately received from the west coast of Africa, Her Majesty's Government are informed, that in consequence of the brig-of-war "Corimba" having been condemned as unseaworthy, and of the defective condition of the schooner "Conde de Tojal," the Portuguese naval force on that station may be said to be reduced to the brig "Serra do Pilar."

Her Majesty's Government lament a state of things so likely to give encouragement to slaving operations, and I am accordingly instructed to express to your Excellency their hope that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will be able to make arrangements for reinforcing the squadron on the west coast of Africa.

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

No. 313.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which I addressed to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 13th instant, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st June, communicating the information which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, relative to the shipment of slaves from the district of Benguella, which information confirms the correctness of the statement contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th May, as to the part taken in these criminal transactions by the two vessels "Guerra" and "Trajano," whose names have lately so frequently been mentioned in the Slave Trade correspondence of this Mission.

I have the honour also to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 6th June, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th May; and a copy of another note dated the 16th May, by which I fulfilled the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st of that month; all relating to the shipment of slaves from Benguella, and more or less also to the vessels "Guerra" and "Trajano."

Your Lordship will see, that in my note of 13th instant I have taken due notice of that part of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, which goes to recommend to the Portuguese Government the necessity of choosing for the now vacant Governor-Generalship of Angola an officer whose previous reputation and energetic qualities shall offer some security for the proper fulfilment of his duty in what relates to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, May 16, 1854.

I AM instructed to acquaint your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have lately received from the British Commissioners at Loanda, very distressing intelligence as to the increasing activity with which the Slave Trade is now carried on at Benguella, the Government of which district had transmitted to the Governor-General the most lamentable accounts of the state of things prevailing in that part of the Portuguese dominions.

Two vessels, it appears, had sailed from Benguella at the end of December, or beginning of January, with full cargoes of slaves; and he has every reason to believe that fresh ventures will be attempted, which he does not possess the means of preventing.

The slave interest has received so great an impulse and encouragement from the recent success which has attended its operations, that he feels assured that the traffickers will resume their speculations with increased activity, and that the picking of urzella, in which the negroes had begun universally to engage, had become so impeded, that the launches return from the south with little or no supplies of that article.

The consequence, the Governor adds, of all this is, that no payments can be obtained, and that he apprehends ruinous commercial losses, which will not be confined to this province, but which will extend also to the mother country.

Her Majesty's Government are confident that His Most Faithful Majesty's Government will hear with great concern of a state of affairs so different from that which the two Governments have so long been labouring to bring about in that part of the world, and be moved to make fresh efforts, if possible, to counteract the nefarious operations of the slave-traders, by which it appears from the Governor's report, that the Province of Benguella has been thrown back from a condition of comparative prosperity and successful industry to the same state of misery and desolation which the country presented in the worst days of African Slave Trade.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 6, 1854.

I AM commanded to inform your Excellency, that intelligence has reached Her Majesty's Government, on the correctness of which they believe that they can rely, to the effect that the two vessels, the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which sailed from Oporto some time ago, supposed to be bound on a slaving voyage, did in fact proceed to the Portuguese Settlement of Novo Redondo, on the west coast of Africa, where they succeeded, each of them, in embarking a cargo of slaves, with which they sailed towards Cuba. Her Majesty's Government are assured that those two vessels are the property of a Portuguese subject named Thomas da Costa Ramos, whose place of residence is Lisbon; and, that on board of one of them proceeded a certain Benito Derizanz, a native of Venezuela, who has acquired notoriety in the history of the Slave Trade as the acknowledged partner of Da Costa Ramos.

This is no doubt the person whose name appeared so conspicuously in the papers found on board the "*Valoroso*," a vessel seized by one of Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of Brazil, in June 1851, as the correspondent of Francisco Antonio Flores, of Loanda, which fact I had the honour to bring to your Excellency's notice a short time ago, as one tending to establish a case of active participation in the Slave Trade against Flores.

Her Majesty's Government feel deep concern in being obliged to lay

CLASS B.

before the Portuguese Government this fresh evidence of the impunity with which vessels intended for the Slave Trade continue to be fitted out in the ports of this country, thus obstructing and discouraging the increasing efforts of Her Majesty's Government, and of the Imperial Government of Brazil, to put a stop to that Traffic.

They are, however, willing to hope, that seeing the inadequacy of the measures hitherto adopted to prevent those criminal evasions of the law, His Most Faithful Majesty's advisers will now be disposed to devise the means of efficiently fulfilling the obligations of this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as well in what relates to the equipment of slave-vessels in the ports of Portugal as to the shipment of Africans for sale from the Portuguese Settlements in Africa.

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

Inclosure 3 in No. 313.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Sir,

Lisbon, June 13, 1854.

WITH reference to the notes which I had the honour to address to your Excellency on the 16th May and 6th June last, communicating the unwelcome intelligence which had reached Her Majesty's Government respecting the revival of the Slave Trade on the west coast of Africa, I am now directed to put your Excellency in possession of the information contained in the inclosed copies of two despatches lately received from the British Commissioners at Loanda, which afford ample confirmation of the statement contained in my note of the 6th June, relative to the embarkation of two cargoes of slaves on board the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trojano*," which were some months since so openly equipped for the Slave Trade at Oporto.

I am likewise directed to request your Excellency's particular attention to the concluding paragraph of the Commissioners' despatch of the 30th March, describing the evil effects which the revival of the Slave Trade in Angola has had upon the legitimate commerce between Portugal and the ports of Loanda and Benguella. Her Majesty's Government, viewing with deep concern the mischief brought about by the facilities lately allowed for the revival of this desolating Traffic, would earnestly recommend to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government the necessity of selecting for the now vacant Government of Angola an officer whose previous reputation and energetic qualities may leave no doubt upon the minds of the slave-dealers as to his determination to remove from that province the disgrace which will permanently attach to it, if the local Government should continue, as lately, to permit the revival of the Slave Trade within its limits.

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

No. 314.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th of June,* and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the letters which you addressed to the Viscount d'Athoquia on the 16th ultimo, and on the 6th and 13th instant, respecting the equipment at Oporto of the slave-vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trojano*," and respecting the revival of the Slave Trade in the Province of Benguella.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 313.

No. 315.

*Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 5.)**Lisbon, June 28, 1854.*

My Lord,

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 14th June, inclosing an extract and a copy of two despatches from Her Majesty's Consul at St. Vincent's, respecting the exportation of slaves from Bissao and Cacheu to Cuba, and also to the Cape de Verde Islands, and directing me, in calling the serious attention of the Portuguese Government to these statements, to point out the expediency of following the example of the Spanish Government, by establishing in the Cape de Verde Islands a system of registration of slaves like that lately established in Cuba.

I have the honour to submit a copy of a note which I have presented to the Viscount d'Athoquia, in the sense of these your Lordship's instructions, with which note, your Lordship will perceive, I have placed in his Excellency's hands copies of Her Catholic Majesty's late Decree for the above mentioned purpose, and others tending to improve the condition of the black population in the Island of Cuba.

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

Inclosure in No. 315.

*Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.**Lisbon, June 22, 1854.*

Sir,

I AM directed to communicate to your Excellency the accompanying extract and copy of two despatches, lately received by Her Majesty's Government from Her Majesty's Consul for the Cape de Verde Islands: the first, stating that several cargoes of slaves have lately been shipped from Bissao and Cacheu to Cuba, and that there is a large schooner in process of construction at Bissao under the superintendence of Spanish carpenters which is intended for the Cuba Slave Trade; the second, relating to the frequent transportation of slaves which are said to take place from Bissao to the Cape de Verde Islands.

I am directed to request the serious attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to these statements, and, with reference to the latter subject of what may be called local Slave Trade, to point out to your Excellency the expediency of following the example lately given by Spain by establishing a system of registration of slaves in the Cape de Verde Islands, in order that the authorities of those islands may be enabled effectually to control the illegal importation of new slaves, which Her Majesty's Government are assured now constantly takes place.

With this view, I have the honour herewith to place in your Excellency's hands the inclosed printed copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, transmitting copies of three Decrees lately signed by Her Catholic Majesty, providing for the registration of slaves, and other measures intended for the improvement of the condition of the black population in the Island of Cuba.

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

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 5.)

(Extract.)

Lisbon, June 28, 1854.

I THINK it right to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a number of the Portuguese Official Journal containing a report of what passed in the Chamber of Peers, on the 17th instant, with reference to the Viscount Pinheiro's proceedings as Governor-General of Angola, and with reference also to the two vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," and other matters connected with the Slave Trade.

I also inclose a translated abstract of the same report.

With regard to the two slavers "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," I beg leave, in like manner, to lay before your Lordship a translation of an official letter from the Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, which has been communicated to me by the Viscount d'Athoguia, giving the result of the inquiry set on foot in consequence of the information which I communicated to the Portuguese Government, as I had the honour to mention in my despatch of 28th January last. *

The papers transmitted with the official letter being very voluminous, I have been obliged to limit myself to an abstract (in English) of their contents, which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

The substance of the whole is, that the authorities of Oporto declare, that it has been impossible to find out anything respecting the two vessels of a nature to justify proceedings against the owners or equippers on the ground of being concerned in the Slave Trade.

Inclosure 1 in No. 316.

Abstract of the Debate in the Chamber of Peers, on 17th June, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE Viscount de Castro said, that he had in a former debate questioned the Minister for Foreign Affairs and for the Marine Department with reference to the conduct of the Portuguese Consul at Pernambuco in connection with the affair of the "*Arrogante*" and the so called Traffic in White Slaves.

That the Minister had then declared, with regard to the first point, that he had called upon the said Consul for his report of the affair, and that he would do all in his power to abolish that Traffic, and if necessary would submit to the Cortes a project of law to that end. Now he knew, that his Excellency had received the report of the Consul, which he thought it would be but fair to publish in the "*Diario do Governo*" seeing that the accusations against him were also published, and in the meantime he would await his Excellency's reply as to the measures adopted by the Government for putting a stop to that most disgraceful Traffic, that he fully agreed with the assertion made by his Excellency, that it is very difficult by positive and direct measures to prevent emigration to Demerara and the Antilles, from Madeira and the Azores, owing to the facilities which these places offer for getting on board and for evading the supervision of the authorities; but still the evils of this system of emigration were so great, especially for those emigrating to the Brazils, and not having wherewith to pay their passage, and who, on their arrival, were forced to sell their services to the first bidder in order to pay the captain for their conveyance, that he could not fail to call the serious attention of the Government to this subject.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs said in reply, that with respect to the Consul at Pernambuco, an impartial and prudent course had been adopted, that he had been called upon for his defence, which, together with the accusations made against him, have been duly examined by the crown lawyer, who has given his opinion, and all these papers are ready for publication in the "*Diario do Governo*." That he agreed as to the necessity of adopting measures for preventing the emigration, which is, unfortunately, carried on in

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 363.

a manner unworthy of the Portuguese nation, inasmuch as the poor emigrants, who go to Brazil and other foreign countries, are treated by the captains of vessels with very little charity, and suffer great inconvenience and hardship. That as he had before stated, he was determined to submit for the approval of the legislative body, measures for preventing the continuance of this system of emigration; but that the difficult point was, the carrying out of any such law in foreign ports where no responsibility could be exacted, except by means of a compact with those countries as suggested. He would add, that all the offers made by Government to these people, of employment on the continent, and even of engaging them for the Royal Navy, have been disregarded by them in their eagerness to emigrate to foreign countries, under the delusive hope of making their fortunes.

Count Thomar rose to say, that the answers of the Minister of Marine were highly gratifying as showing a tendency to proceed with justice and impartiality in the case in question; that he wished he could say the same with regard to another case, respecting which the only answer that he had been able to obtain was, that the necessary information had not yet arrived. He referred to the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," and he could not but feel some surprise at the want of information on the part of the Minister, when it was known to all the world that these vessels took in slaves on the coast of Africa, and it was generally stated, that they had conveyed them to Cuba. These facts then being admitted on all sides, it appeared to him impossible, that after some months, and after the repeated notices contained in the journals, both foreign and native, and when even some foreign diplomatic missions have received various communications upon this subject, the Government alone should have received no information. That it was the duty of the Government to obtain such information through their diplomatic and consular agents at the proper places, and it might have been obtained from the African Settlements, if certain measures had not been lately adopted by the Governor-General, among which may be noted the appointment of civil officers whom it is much to be hoped are not in connivance with these acts.

One individual, generally accused of connivance in the Slave Trade, was appointed; it cannot be admitted that a Governor-General of a transmarine province is authorized to dismiss all the officers of the province, including those holding appointments from the Crown, and to substitute others of his own choice, as was done at Angola; and it is to be hoped, that this was not done in order to cloak certain proceedings subsequently practised, but of which his Excellency said, he was not yet in a position to speak; he must, however, make a fresh and important notification to the Government, for he had been assured that an agreement had been just concluded in this city, for the purpose of carrying on the infamous Traffic of Slaves, and under the auspices of an influential person in Africa, and beg of them to be upon their guard.

The Minister of Marine said, that believing as he did in the assertions of the worthy peer who had just spoken, yet it was not always possible to obtain proofs of such crimes; that he also could point out an individual who had been indicated as a slaver by natives as well as foreigners, but the worthy peer, who has already been a member of a court of justice, knows, that without documents no man can be imprisoned. That with regard to the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajano*," he had done all in his power to obtain correct information of their movements, but without success; nor is this suprising, for if it were true that they had effected their negotiation, they must have gone direct to the Coast of Africa, and from thence to Cuba; that he had since learned that the vessel whose name was changed to "*Ermelinda*" was very likely to be the "*Trajano*," and measures had been taken to try and capture this vessel; that to the south of Benguella 300 slaves had been taken that were ready for shipping; and that finally a vessel called the "*Rosa*" had taken on board a number of slaves who had been usually engaged in collecting orchella weed ("*urzella*") and had therefore disarmed suspicion as to their intentions; about 150 of them have however been apprehended by the English and Portuguese cruizers.

That he had felt inclined at first to request, that the worthy peer would state the names of those persons who are said to carry on the Slave Trade,

but he had desisted from this step until sufficient and convincing proofs could be obtained of their culpability, in which case he would himself not hesitate to expose them, that they might receive the punishment due to their crimes.

With reference to the Governorship of Angola, he would say, that the person appointed in the place of the late Governor who is now in Lisbon, is an officer who had held the Governorship of Benguella, and of whom good reports had reached him from persons of every political shade, which showed that there was no partiality; this officer, whose name he could not recollect, was by this time in possession of the Governorship of Angola, and he felt no fear of ever having to regret having made this appointment.

Count Thomar said, that he was very sorry that the explanations given by his Excellency the Minister of Marine were not altogether satisfactory; for, in the first place, there was no excuse for the Government in not being able to obtain information respecting the slave-traders' movements; the more so as it had been stated by an Oporto newspaper, that the Government had put a stop to the investigations on this subject, inasmuch as they would involve certain persons who were connected with those in power; these assertions had not been contradicted by the Government, nor had any measures been taken to clear themselves from the imputation.

In the second place, with respect to the removal of the officers, whom the Governor-General of Angola replaced by others of his own selection, it must be admitted, that the end in view was, not the good of the public service; and it would be well to know, whether the Government sanctioned the dismissal of those functionaries who held appointments under the seal of the Sovereign, in order that they might be replaced by others, who had previously been sent out of the province, owing to their being convicted of connivance in the Slave Trade. In fact, every circumstance tends to show the complete abuse of power, and the ends towards which it was directed, viz. : those of private interests, and not the public good; it remains then for the Government to take this matter up seriously, and to decide, whether these measures are to be allowed or to be revoked.

Some further discussion took place in which the Viscount Fonte Arcada and the Marquis Vallada joined, both of whom censured the Government for a want of proper energy in suppressing and punishing the arbitrary conduct of some of the public servants. This was met by the Viscount de Athoguia the Minister of Marine, with recriminations and comparisons of the acts of former Governments.

Inclosure 2 in No. 316.

The Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Home Department, June 7, 1854.

AS soon as this Department found out what the public journals denounced with respect to the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajano*," which were said to have equipped in the Douro, and sailed from Oporto to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I instructed the Civil Governor of the District of Oporto to proceed to the most scrutinising investigations, in order to learn by evidence, whether the said vessels had or had not received that destination, as also the circumstances attending the case, and who were the persons implicated in that unlawful Trade.

The said Magistrate complied by sending me the information contained in the Inclosures Nos. 1 and 2; but at the same time, knowing that it was insufficient for a full elucidation of the case, he informed me that he would proceed with fresh investigations until such time as he arrived at some result.

It was during this interval that Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at this Court delivered, about the end of January of this year, a memorandum containing some information on this subject, a copy of which your Excellency sent me with your despatch of 16th May last. A translation of this memorandum was immediately transmitted to the said Civil Governor that he might take

advantage of the suggestions contained therein, and proceed to the necessary examinations with all the care which the case demanded.

In consequence, therefore, of this, the persons pointed out in the memorandum as being acquainted with the case, were called upon to declare what they knew respecting the equipment and true destination of these two vessels.

From their declarations as shown in the annexed copy of the process No. 3, nothing was learned upon the subject.

The occurrence, if true, remains shrouded in mystery and secrecy, and the investigations which took place having failed in confirming what the press affirmed with regard to the employment of these vessels, plainly shows, as the Civil Governor truly remarks, the impossibility of obtaining data and information sufficient to authorize the institution of legal proceedings against any person.

All which I have the honour to state to your Excellency, that you may be pleased to make it known to the above mentioned British Minister for his information.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

R. FONSECA MAGALHAES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 316.

Extract from the Process relating to the "Guerra" and the "Trajano."

(Translation.)

DESPATCH of Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated Lisbon, June 7, 1854, with three Inclosures. Copy and translation annexed.

Inclosure No. 1.

*Document 1.—Civil Governor of Oporto to Minister of the Interior.
Oporto, January 5, 1854.*

Précis.—Has instructed the officer in charge of the police of the port to report the circumstances attending the departure of the "Guerra" and "Trajano," and whether he had observed any indications which might lead to a suspicion of their being equipped for a slaving voyage.

*Document No. 2.—Delegate of Police to Civil Governor. Maçarelos,
January 5, 1854.*

Précis.—The "Guerra" cleared outwards for Santos, touching at Vianna, and sailed from this port on the 9th November last, with a crew of fourteen persons; this vessel sailed in ballast, and was to take in cargo at Vianna; she carried no passengers.

The "Trajana" cleared outwards for Rio Grande do Sul, touching at the Azores, and sailed from this port on the 10th December last, with a crew of eleven persons and one passenger; this vessel also sailed in ballast.

As these vessels were bound for Portuguese ports, they did not come within the action of the laws enacted for vessels bound to Angola, and other African ports, and therefore I did not examine the hold, but merely verified the number of the crew and passengers, and in the discharge of these duties I perceived no article or circumstance leading to a suspicion of the nature indicated to me.

*Document No. 3.—Copies of the official entries of the departure of the
"Guerra" and "Trajana."*

*Document No. 4.—Copy of Muster Roll of "Trajana," and description
of passenger.*

Document No. 5.—Copy of the Muster Roll of the "Guerra."

Inclosure No. 2.

*Document No. 1.—Civil Governor of Oporto to Minister of the Interior.
Oporto, January 23, 1854.*

Précis.—Has continued to institute inquiries relating to the destination and other circumstances attending the departure of the “*Guerra*” and the “*Trajana*,” but which have as yet led to no result of the nature contemplated, as will be seen from the annexed documents.

Document No. 2.

Bernardo Jose Machado, merchant, of Oporto, and reputed cashier of the “*Guerra*” and “*Trajana*,” on being examined declared, that Manuel Francisco Cardozo, a merchant of Fayal, was the owner of these vessels, and that he had sailed in the “*Trajana*,” being provided with a passport for England, conferred by the Civil Governor of Lisbon, and bearing the visâ of the Civil Governor of Oporto. That with regard to their cargo and destination, the said Cardozo had told him that they were intended for conveying emigrants from the Azores to Santos and to Rio Grande do Sul, and had given him a list of stores and provisions required, all of which were shipped through the Custom-house; that said vessels were built at Villa Nova de Gaia, by Custodio da Silva Santos and Carlos Joaquim d’Azevedo Varêta.

Document No. 3.

João Gomes Pinto de Abreu, a member of the firm Daniel Irmão and Co., shipping agents, on being examined declared that his firm had been intrusted with the clearing out of said vessels, by their consignee, Bernardo Jose Machado, a merchant of Oporto. With regard to their destination, the “*Guerra*” was cleared for Santos, to touch at Vianna do Castello, and the “*Trajana*” for Rio Grande do Sul, to touch at the Azores; that he believed they had sailed in ballast.

*Document No. 4.—Administrator of 1st Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto.
January, 23, 1854.*

Précis.—From his inquiries it does not appear that the said vessels were intended for a slaving voyage, or that any articles or implements had been purchased for such a purpose within his district.

Document No. 5.—Administrator of 2nd Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto. January 23, 1854.

Précis.—From the inquiries instituted in this district, it appears that no articles of the nature indicated in the “*Portuguez*” newspaper, have been supplied by the shops of this ward, nor are they kept in such quantities as to cause a suspicion.

Document No. 6.—Administrator of 3rd Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto. January 23, 1854.

Précis.—Has not been able to obtain any confirmation of the suspicions respecting the “*Guerra*” and the “*Trajana*,” it is not proved that these vessels refused to convey passengers or to carry cargo; neither is it true that they had shipped a numerous crew, barrels of beads, slave-decks, &c., and water, &c. for a number of persons.

Inclosure No. 3.

*Despatch of Civil Governor of Oporto to Minister of the Interior. Oporto,
May 31, 1854.*

Précis.—In accordance with instructions from the Home Department, has proceeded to examine all the different persons pointed out as in any way connected with, or having any knowledge of, the equipment of the “*Guerra*” and “*Trajana*,” and notwithstanding all the efforts employed to find out whether

these vessels were intended for a slaving voyage, no clue has been obtained towards the discovery of the truth by means of these examinations, and of the information received from different sources, as shown by the annexed documents.

Document No. 1.

Sebastião Jose da Cunha Carmo, Captain of the "*Guerra*," declared, that on 10th November, 1853, his vessel being then ready for sea, and cleared by the police, he came on shore to set his chronometer, which had stopped; that in the meantime the vessel sailed out in the direction of Vianna; that on the following day he went by land to Vianna, intending there to embark, and take the command of the vessel, the state of the weather, however, prevented her from entering that port, and he stayed at the house of the consignee, José Caetano da Silva, till the 20th, when he returned to Oporto. That the crew consisted of fourteen men including himself; that the water taken in was only sufficient for the crew on their voyage; that she was ballasted with stones, had on board some stores and provisions, some wine, and some closed cases, contents unknown to him, but which came on board with the custom-house clearance and with the manifest, under a sealed cover, addressed to the Director of the Custom-house, at Vianna; that all his clothes, charts, and nautical instruments, &c., went in the vessel; that the owner, Manuel Francisco Cardozo, was on board, and caused the vessel to sail without him, saying that he would come off in a boat; but this he was unable to do on account of the weather, and for that reason he had gone to Vianna.

Document No. 2.

Senhor Antonio Ferreira da Silva, merchant and landowner, a Brazilian subject resident in this city, declared, that he knew nothing about the vessels "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*," further than what was mentioned in the public journals.

Document No. 3.

João Faneca, a boatman, declared that he knew nothing about the crews of these vessels, their cargo or victualling, and only knew that they were built at Villa Nova de Gaia.

Document No. 4.

Rodrigo Antonio Lopes, the pilot that piloted the "*Trajana*," declared that the crew consisted of from twelve to fourteen men, which was the usual number or a vessel of her class; that he had no further information to offer.

Document No. 5.

Antonio Joaquin de Souza Carvalho, pilot on board the "*Trajana*," declared, that the crew consisted of about thirteen men; that he had nothing further to state as it was not his business to inquire into other particulars.

Document No. 6.

João Martins de Carvalho, the pilot that piloted the "*Guerra*," declared, that the crew consisted of about twelve men; that with regard to passengers he knew nothing, as he had not left the deck; that he had made no inquiries and therefore had nothing further to state.

Document No. 7.

José Mouthino de Souza, pilot on board the "*Guerra*," declared, that the crew consisted of about twelve or fourteen men; that the Captain was not on board when the vessel sailed; that it was said he was going by land to Vianna, there to embark; that the vessel sailed by order of the cashier or consignee, who was on board at the time of sailing. That he knew nothing respecting the water, cargo, or stores of the vessel.

Document No. 8.

José Pinto da Costa, junior, a wine-merchant, and owner of a cooperage at Villa Nova de Gaia, declared that Bernardo Jose Machado, a merchant of

Oporto, had ordered from him 28 pipes including 4 casks holding each 4 pipes, for the "*Guerra*," and 24 pipes, including also 4 casks for the "*Trajana*;" and that he knew nothing further respecting the equipment of these vessels.

Document No. 9.

Carlos Joaquim d'Azevedo Varêta, shipbuilder, declared that he had built the "*Guerra*" by order of Bernardo José Machado, a merchant of Oporto, who said she was for a fruit vessel; that he had never built a slaver, but that he knew how they were built; the "*Guerra*" was not built so; that since the vessel was launched he had not been on board of her; and that he had nothing further to declare.

Document No. 10.

Jose Francisco dos Santos, ironmaster, declared, that by order of Bernardo José Machado, he had made all the iron work required for the "*Guerra*," and he had also made the necessary iron work for the "*Trajana*" by order of the builder, Custodio Martins da Silva Santos; that this iron-work was such as is usually made for new vessels, viz., nails, bolts, ring-bolts, thimbles, &c.; and that no chains or handcuffs were made by him, nor did he know that such had been made at any other place.

Document No. 11.

Gaspar da Cunha Luna, Bachelor of Arts, Director of the Massarellos Foundry, declared, that from September to November last, that foundry had made three pieces of chain for bob-stays, and a cooking-range for the "*Trajana*," that another range was also made there for the "*Guerra*;" that this was the whole of the iron-work supplied from said foundry to these vessels.

Document No. 12.

José Joaquim dos Santos, magistrate of the parish of Santa Marinha de Villa Nova de Gaia, stated, that two individuals from his parish had sailed in these vessels, one named Narcizo, a foundling, the other named Ermenigildo de Pernambuco, a native of Oporto; both had been engaged by the Captain of the "*Guerra*," and it was said by some ferrymen, that they were engaged to go to the coast of Africa; that these ferrymen had also gone to sea subsequently.

Document No. 13.

Joaquim José Pinto, a farmer of Avintes, stated, that his son, Manuel Jose Pinto, sailed in the "*Guerra*," saying, that he was going to the Islands, and from thence to Brazil; that he had not heard of him since.

Document No. 14.

Anna de Jesus, of the parish of Valboin, wife of João dos Santos, a mariner, declared that her husband had gone to sea about five months since; did not know in what vessel; that he said he was going to the Islands and from thence to Rio Grande; he never said, that he was going to the coast of Africa or to Angola; that he left her no money.

Document No. 15.

Maria da Cruz, a widow, and mother to Pedro da Silva, declared, that in the beginning of December her son came home, and said, that his ship was to sail soon, and that if he did not return that day it was a sign that he had sailed; that he had left her no money.

Document No. 16.

Anna da Silva, daughter to Maria da Cruz, and sister to Pedro da Silva, repeated the above declaration.

Document No. 17.

Gaspar Gonçalves de Castro, magistrate of the parish of Santa Christovão de Mafamude, stated, that three individuals from his parish had sailed in these vessels, namely, Antonio Fernandes d'Oliveira, Domingos de Sá, and Francisco

dos Reis; that the first had received from the captain 13,000 reis, on account of his wages; this he gave to his mother; the second received 9,600 reis; the third received nothing; that the mother of Francisco dos Reis had said, that her son was gone to the coast of Africa.

Document No. 18.

Rosa de Jesus, a widow, of the parish of Santa Christovão, declared, that her son, Francisco Perreira dos Reis, was engaged to go in the "*Trajana*;" that she did not know where it was bound to; that she had received no money from her son.

Document No. 19.

Maria de Jesus declared, that on the 16th November, her son Antonio Fernandes, went to sea; she did not know the name of the vessel; that her son said he was going to Australia; that the mate told him he was going to a cold country, and gave him first 9,600 reis, and afterwards half a sovereign to buy warm clothes; did not know the name of the mate; has not heard since of her son.

Document No. 20.

Maria Roza de Sá, declared, that her son sailed in the same vessel with Antonio Fernandes; did not know the name of the vessel; had heard they were going to Australia; did not know who engaged him; that he received 9,600 reis, but gave her nothing.

Document No. 21.

David Hargreaves, a British subject, formerly director of the Bicalho Foundry, stated that in October and November of 1853, the said foundry supplied the "*Guerra*" with various articles of iron and brass work, as also to the "*Trajana*;" these were ordered by the captains of the vessels respectively, and the accounts were paid by Bernardo José Machado, a merchant of Oporto.

Document No. 22.—Director of Oporto Custom House to Civil Governor of Oporto. March 11, 1854.

Précis.—Vessels sailing for Brazil, or for ports of the kingdom, have custom-house guards on board only when their cargo consists of re-exportation goods, which was not the case with the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*;" therefore no information can be obtained through this medium.

Document No. 23.—Administrator of 3rd Ward to Civil Governor of Oporto. April 8, 1854.

Transmitting despatches of the several magistrates with information respecting the crews of the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajana*."

Document No. 24.

Magistrate of the parish of Foz states, that no person from his parish had sailed in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*."

Document No. 25.

Magistrate of the parish of Lordello do Ouro states, that the "*Guerra*" and the "*Trajana*," were built at Villa Nova de Gaia, and not at Ribeira do Ouro.

Document No. 26.

Magistrate of the parish of Massarellos states, that only one individual from his parish was engaged to form part of the crews of the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*," by name Antonio José Machado; his wife refused to answer any questions.

Document No. 27.

Magistrate of the parish of Miragaia states, that to his knowledge, none of the inhabitants of his parish had sailed in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*;" and that he has not been able to collect any information.

Document No. 28.

Magistrate of the parish of S. Nicolan states, that he could not discover that any of the residents of his parish had sailed in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*;" was informed that the crews and captains were engaged in Lisbon, with the exception of three men, of which two were taken from the "*Rapida*," and the third was a resident at Massarellos.

Document No. 29.

Administrator of the district of Bonças states, that not a single person was engaged from that district for the crews of the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*."

Document No. 30.

Magistrate of the parish of Matosinhos states, that no person was engaged for the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*" from his parish.

Document No. 31.

Administrator of the district of Gaia states, that not a single mariner was engaged from the parish of Avintes for the "*Guerra*" and "*Trajana*."

Document No. 32.

Magistrate of the parish of Avintes states, that no person had left his parish to go to sea in the "*Guerra*" or "*Trajana*."

No. 317.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 7, 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 of June, you addressed on the 22nd June to the Viscount d'Athoguia, calling his Excellency's attention to the recent shipments of slaves from the Portuguese possessions of Bissao and Cacheu, and suggesting the establishment of a system of registration of slaves in the Cape Verd Islands; and I have, in reply, to inform you that I approve your note of the 22nd ultimo to Viscount d'Athoguia on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 318.

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

(Extract.)

Lisbon, July 18, 1854.

WITHIN the last few days the Portuguese Ministers have again been taken to task in the Chamber of Peers on account of things which are said to have occurred on the coast of Africa, showing a want of efficiency on the part of the local authorities in fulfilling the obligations of this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It is reported, on the faith of a letter lately received from Loanda, that a Portuguese colonial vessel, called the "*Trindade*," had been captured by one of Her Majesty's cruisers, bound for one of the Portuguese islands, and having on board a number of negroes; and that it had been attempted to justify the irregularity so committed by the exception contained in Article V of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, by which the right is reserved to Portuguese settlers, removing from one Portuguese possession to another, to take with them, in

* No. 315.

certain cases, as many as 10 slaves, provided that such slaves be *bonâ fide* domestic servants.

It was very properly observed by the Marquis de Vallada, in the discussion to which I refer, that it would require but a little laxness or connivance on the part of the public authorities, in issuing the papers required to legalize these operations, to make the exceptional provision contained in Article V of the Treaty a cover for slave-trading to any extent.

The Viscount d'Athoguia stated in reply, that the Government had received no authentic or official account of the capture of any colonial vessel by a British cruizer, but that a protest had been made at Loanda by the British Commissioners against abuses which were attempted to be committed under favour of Article V of the Treaty, and he promised to lay before the Chamber, without loss of time, any further or more precise information which might reach him respecting the transactions referred to.

It must be very painful to Her Majesty's Government to hear of the repeated instances which have lately been brought to light of the successful evasion of the laws and engagements of this country for the prevention of the Slave Trade, particularly after the progress which seemed to have been made towards the complete extinction of that Traffic and its attendant abominations.

No. 319.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a translation of a note from the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to one which, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of 31st May,* I addressed to his Excellency on the 13th of last month, pointing out the reduced state of the Portuguese naval force on the west coast, and recommending that measures might be taken to restore it to a state of greater efficiency. A copy of my note of 13th June was transmitted with my despatch of the 18th June.

Your Lordship will perceive from the Viscount d'Athoguia's answer, that he promises, notwithstanding the defective condition of the Portuguese navy and the limited resources at the disposal of the Government, that every effort shall be made to reinforce the station of Angola with one more ship of war.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 319.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, July 12, 1854.

HAVING brought to the knowledge of the Marine Department the contents of the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 13th June last, in which, by order of your Government, you represented the necessity for the reinforcement of the Portuguese naval station at Angola for the prevention of the Slave Trade, in accordance with the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, I have the honour to state to you, that on the 30th of June it was communicated to me through that Department, that,

* No. 307.

notwithstanding the deficient state of the Portuguese navy and the small means at disposal, every effort will be made to reinforce that station with some other vessel of war.

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

No. 320.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 18, 1854.

I HAVE reason to hope that after the close of the present session of the Cortes, the Portuguese Government will at length issue a Decree for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions,—a measure which has been often talked of in this country, and much desired by Her Majesty's Government, although hitherto without effect.

Your Lordship is aware, that according to the constitutional arrangements of Portugal, power is reserved to the Government to introduce measures of a legislative character for the colonies when the Cortes are not in session, subject always to the ultimate approval of the Chambers.

This, I understand, is the course which the Government propose to adopt with reference to the Decree for the registration of slaves; and it is certainly a safer and more expeditious way of proceeding, than to expose the measure to the delays and vicissitudes attending its progress through the Cortes, according to the usual forms of legislation.

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

No. 321.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant,* reporting that the attention of the Portuguese Ministry had been called in the Chambers of Peers to a recent case of connivance on the part of the authorities of Loanda, in a slave-trading transaction.

I have to instruct you to inform the Viscount d'Athoguia of the extreme regret with which Her Majesty's Government learn these repeated instances of the revival of the Slave Trade in the dominions of His Most Faithful Majesty. You will state that Her Majesty's Government do not for a moment suppose that such outrages on humanity, and violations of Treaty engagements, are sanctioned by the Portuguese Government; but, on the other hand, they cannot doubt, that if greater care were observed in the selection of colonial authorities, if greater vigour were displayed in the prevention of the Slave Trade, and less favour shown to notorious or detected criminals who have been guilty of dealing in slaves, the good faith of Portugal would not now be called in question; nor would it be the painful duty of Her Majesty's Government to protest against the Traffic in human beings, which is once more actively carried on in Portuguese possessions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 318.

No. 322.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant,* and I have in reply to inform you that Her Majesty's Government learn with satisfaction the intention of the Portuguese Government, stated in Viscount d'Athoguia's note of the 12th instant, to reinforce their squadron on the west coast of Africa by another ship of war.

You will report to me whether a vessel is sent for that purpose.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 323.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 29, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant,† stating that you have reason to hope that the Portuguese Government will, after the close of the present session of the Cortes, issue a Decree for the registration of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal.

The enactment of such a Decree would afford Her Majesty's Government great satisfaction; and I have to desire, that on the closing of the Cortes, you will remind the Portuguese Government of their expressed intention with regard to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 324.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, inclosing a copy of a communication which they had received from the Government of Angola with reference to certain discussions between themselves and the Governor of that province; and I have to instruct you to bring this paper before the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state that it is very painful to Her Majesty's Government to receive, and to have to remonstrate against, these constant proofs of the unwillingness of the Portuguese authorities to aid in the suppression of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 325.

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

My Lord,

Cintra, August 18, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 12th instant to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 29th July.

* No. 319.

† No. 320.

‡ Class A, No. 65.

I have fulfilled the instruction contained in your Lordship's first despatch of that date* by expressing to the Viscount d'Athoguia, in the words made use of by your Lordship, the regret with which Her Majesty's Government have heard of the repeated instances which have lately been noticed of the revival of the Slave Trade in the Portuguese dominions, with the supposed connivance of the local authorities.

The instructions contained in your Lordship's other despatches of the same date shall likewise be fulfilled on the first opportunity.

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

No. 326.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 25, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 10th of November, 1853,† communicating the refusal of the Portuguese Government to accede to the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government to remove, at their own expense, from Angola to a British colony, the negroes who have been liberated by the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, I have to inform you that I transmitted a copy of your despatch in question to Sir George Jackson, and I now transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Sir George Jackson in reply, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between himself and the Governor-General of Angola upon this subject.

I am &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 327.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch§ which I have received from Sir George Jackson, Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioner at Loanda, inclosing copies of a correspondence which took place between him and the President of the Provisional Government of Angola, respecting the reconstruction of the Board of Superintendence of Liberated Negroes at Loanda, which had become necessary upon the retirement of the Viscount de Pinheiro; and I have to inform you that I have approved Sir George Jackson's proceedings in that matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 328.

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

(Extract.)

Cintra, August, 28, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th July,|| that I should report to your Lordship whether a vessel had been dispatched to reinforce the Portuguese squadron on the coast of Africa, as promised by Viscount d'Athoguia's note of 12th July;

* No. 321.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 335.

‡ Class A, No. 95.

§ Class A, No. 96.

No. 322.

I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that I find upon inquiry that no vessel has yet been sent on that service, there being at this moment no suitable vessel disposable or in a state of efficiency; but there are two small vessels, the "Mondego," and the "Villa Flor," now under repair in the Tagus, and the Viscount d'Athoguia informs me, that as soon as one of those vessels can be got ready it shall be sent to the west coast of Africa for the purpose desired by your Lordship.

No. 329.

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

My Lord,

Cintra, August 28, 1854.

I HAVE not failed to fulfil the orders contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th July,* respecting the proposed measure of providing for the registration of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal; and I am assured that the Portuguese Government are seriously engaged, in conjunction with the Ultra-Marine Council, in preparing a Decree on the subject, with a view to its promulgation before the next meeting of the Cortes.

I hope that in the course of a few days, I shall have an opportunity of ascertaining more particularly what are the provisions of this Decree, in order to be able to communicate them to your Lordship.

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

No. 330.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 7, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th of February last,† I transmit to you a copy of a despatch‡ from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, respecting their relations with the Provincial Government of Angola, and respecting the expulsion of Flores. And I have to call your attention to a passage in that despatch, in which it is stated that Viscount de Pinheiro, having heard that a Portaria was about to be issued, ordering the expulsion of Flores, had, before his relinquishing the Government of Angola, furnished him with a passport enabling him to leave Loanda when he thought proper.

I have to instruct you to make inquiry into the truth of this statement, and to report to me the result of your investigations; should it prove to be correct, you will call the attention of the Portuguese Government thereto.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 331.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 12.)

My Lord,

Cintra, September 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 1st of this month to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 23rd, 24th, 25th, and 26th of August.

In fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I will communicate to the Viscount d'Athoguia the information transmitted by Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, relative to the intention of Senhor Souza and Almeida to abandon his scheme for transporting a hundred of his slaves from Benguella to Prince's Island, by virtue of a privilege granted to him by the Portuguese Government, and this because he has been advised that it would be more for his advantage to buy slaves in Prince's Island than to transport them thither from Benguella.

* No. 323. † See Class B, presented 1854, No. 377. ‡ See Class A, No. 68.

It is now some time since the Viscount d'Athoguia told me, that he also had heard that it was not his (Senhor Souza's) intention to act upon the privilege which had been granted to him, because he had ascertained that it was not likely to be remunerative.

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

No. 332.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 8, 1854.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, the copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape Verd Islands, reporting that a number of slaves, whom he supposes to have been newly imported ones, had been sold by auction in the public square of Porto Praia; and I have to instruct you to urge the Portuguese Government to make an immediate and searching inquiry respecting this disgraceful occurrence, and to punish the parties concerned.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 333.

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

My Lord, *Lisbon, September 18, 1854.*

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose translations of a note and its inclosure, which I have received from the Viscount d'Athoguia, purporting to be in answer to my notes of the 16th May and 13th June last (of which copies were transmitted with my despatch of the 18th June), communicating the information which your Lordship had received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, relative to certain embarkations of negroes on a large scale which had taken place in the Portuguese Province of Benguella.

The papers which accompany Viscount d'Athoguia's note, appear to me to relate to the very transactions reported to your Lordship by Her Majesty's Commissioners in their despatches of the 23rd and 30th of March last, and to furnish distressing confirmation of the extent to which the Slave Trade is now carried on in the Province of Benguella; and, if confidence is to be placed in the statements of the Lieutenant-Governor of that province, of the inadequate means at his disposal to repress these criminal operations.

Your Lordship will perceive that the concluding part of the Viscount d'Athoguia's note contains fresh assurances of the desire of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to follow the recommendation of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the character of the officer to be appointed to the vacant Governorship of Angola, adding, that the officer now temporarily acting in that capacity is a person whose integrity and intelligence no one has yet dared to call in question.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 333.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, September 9, 1854.

IN answer to the notes which you were pleased to address to me on the 16th May and 13th June last, relative to the increase which you say the Slave Trade has assumed in the Province of Angola, and in which you express, by order of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, the necessity which exists that the Governor who may be appointed to that province should be a person of such

* No. 369.

character and energy as to deprive the slave-traders of the hope of being able to continue their criminal speculations, I have the honour to place in your hands the inclosed extracts and copies of some official letters from the Governor-General of that province, and from the Governor of Benguella, which were transmitted to me through the Department of Marine, with the documents to which they refer, copies of which are herewith inclosed.

From the contents of these papers you will perceive, that if in reality that odious commerce has there increased, through the means of which the traders in human flesh have availed themselves, the respective authorities have not on this account omitted to take all the measures within their reach to prevent it, as it was their duty.

With respect to the nomination of a new Governor-General, possessed of the qualifications above pointed out, I can assure you, Sir, that His Majesty's Government will not neglect to take into due consideration the advice which you give by order of your Government, when this nomination takes place, although the officer now temporarily charged with that Government is a person whose integrity and intelligence no one has yet dared to call in question.

I take, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the Delegate of the Attorney-General.

(Translation.)

Illustrious Sir,

Governor's Office, Benguella, February 7, 1854.

IT being generally affirmed that the following individuals, Ignacio Pereira de Macedo, José Antonio Fernandes, Francisco Antonio Monteiro, and one called João Verde, absented themselves from this city, or some part within its jurisdiction, without passports, there being strong reasons for believing that they sailed in the vessels that lately shipped slaves to the south of Benguella; and convinced that it is not possible to obtain sufficient proofs for the due punishment of these smugglers, and in order that they may not shortly return with impunity to the city;

The Governor determines that you should legally investigate the clandestine absence of the said individuals; and if it be proved to be such, to accuse them of a public crime, the accusation to remain open till such time as it prescribes by law.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

CASEMIRO SERVIOS MARGIOCHI,
Secretary.

Inclosure 3 in No. 333.

The late Governor of the Province of Angola to the Governor of Benguella.

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

February 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Excellency the inclosed copy of a despatch which I have caused to be addressed to the Delegate of the Attorney-General in this district, instructing him to proceed to a legal investigation respecting the clandestine departure from this city, or from some parts of the coast within its jurisdiction, of the four individuals therein mentioned, there being every reason to believe that they sailed in the vessels that lately took in slaves to the southward of this city; and as it is not possible to obtain proofs for the judicial condemnation of the principals in those illicit and pernicious speculations, that at least their unknown and inferior agents may not return with impunity to the very country in which they committed these delinquencies. This is the end I had in view in ordering this legal proceeding. There is a rumour of a fresh embarkation of slaves having been effected to the south.

Inclosure 4 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the late Governor of the Province of Angola.

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

March 3, 1854.

THE shipment of slaves which I mentioned to your Excellency in my despatch of 11th ultimo as extremely likely, took place on the 23rd ultimo from the beach of Limage, where the two last shipments were also effected. It is said, that the brig "Serra do Pilar" was off that place on the 22nd, and the slaver was only a few miles to the south. The latter would have been taken, if the brig had held on in that direction a little longer, which unfortunately she did not. I will furnish your Excellency with further details later, as I expect to obtain more certain information, and as at present the state of my health will not allow me to write much. Yesterday I caused all the disposable force to proceed to Dombe Grande, as the Chief of that place asked for assistance against a band of natives. I am this day informed, however, that they were few in number, and that they were repelled. This despatch will be sent by the schooner "Gratidão." The schooner "Conselho" and the polaque "Esperança" are still in the south.

Inclosure 5 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the Governor of the Province of Angola.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Benguella, March 21, 1854.

LAST night about 400 slaves left this city, on the road to Dombe Grande, and in the direction of the south coast, destined to be exported beyond the sea. I was informed of this at about midnight, they having left about an hour since. I immediately caused all the disposable force to follow them; and at the same time I sent an express to Dombe, to instruct the Chief of that place to oppose the passage of the party. A soldier who has just arrived on service from that district, informs me, that he met the party of slaves at Quippopa, about half way between this city and Dombe; that the mounted express was very near upon them, and would pass on before them by another road, as he was instructed; and that finally the troops were about three leagues in their rear. Owing to the slow progress of the manacled slaves, I trust that they will be overtaken, and that justice will be enabled to make an example, in order to suppress these scandalous proceedings. But as this plan might fail, it became therefore necessary to send by sea to stop the embarkation of the slaves. The schooner "Conselho" had arrived here on the same night (20th instant), having sailed from Mossamedes on the 15th. She was to proceed to-day to Loanda, but I considered it absolutely necessary to send her again to the south, to cruise at the place where the projected embarkation would be likely to take place, till such time as the brig "Serra do Pilar" should arrive, which you tell me in your despatch of the 1st instant will be shortly. The above-mentioned schooner has sailed on this service. I sent in her the Second Lieutenant Campina to assist her Commander, he being the best acquainted with the coast. To bring all these occurrences to your Excellency's knowledge, I am about to despatch a state launch to that city. With a troubled spirit at the sight of the unbridled increase of this most fatal passion for the Traffic in Slaves, and with a broken body, owing to the hard labour which I have undergone in opposing it, although up to the present with but little success, it would be very consoling to me, that your Excellency should believe in my zeal, and excuse any error of judgment which I may commit through it.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE R. COELHO DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 6 in No. 333.

The Governor-General of the Province of Angola to the Department of Marine.

(Extract.)

(Translation.)

March 23, 1854.

FROM the inclosed copy of an official letter which I have just received from the Governor of Benguella, your Excellency will perceive, that on the 23rd of February last, another embarkation of slaves took place at Port of Limage, notwithstanding that all possible pains were taken to prevent it, not only by making use of the scanty means which I have at my disposal, but even by giving notice to the ships of the British naval station of the suspicions which I entertained, in order that we might both in common exert ourselves in frustrating the views of the smugglers, as, in fact, took place, without unfortunately obtaining the desired result. Of all these occurrences, I have given your Excellency circumstantial information in my preceding confidential despatches, to the contents of which I again beg leave to request your Excellency's attention, because this affair is becoming more and more serious, and there being near 2000 leagues distance unprovided with the necessary elements to understand exactly what may be the conduct of the public functionaries of this province. The successive realization of such undertakings must affect more or less the credit of the same functionaries, who in this way labour under unmerited censure, on account of their supposed want of activity, or neglect on their part.

From the copies to which the inclosed despatch refers, your Excellency will perceive, that already the requisite proceedings have been undertaken at Benguella, against the persons suspected of connivance at the last shipments, but simply from circumstances as yet ill confirmed. Nevertheless, I hope that these proceedings will have some influence in arresting the rapid progress which this illegal Traffic was assuming.

Inclosure 7 in No. 333.

The Governor of Benguella to the Governor of the Province of Angola.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir,

Benguella, March 24, 1854.

THE brig-of-war the "Moçambique" arrived here this day, at 3 P.M., from Lisbon, in 107 days, having touched at St. Jago de Cabo Verde and Mossamedes; she proceeds to-morrow to Loanda. I avail myself of this opportunity to inform your Excellency, with reference to the subject of my confidential despatch of the 21st instant, that 105 of the slaves of the troop which left Benguella for Dombe Grande, and which I had caused to be followed by a military force, were taken as stated in the said despatch. Two of the conductors, who are white men, and clerks to merchants in this city, were also apprehended with the slaves.

The other two conductors were enabled to escape, together with some of the slaves, as they were at some distance from the prisoners, and were informed of their capture.

This affair is in the hands of the judicial authorities. A launch was also taken, conveying slaves from Novo Redondo, or from the vicinity of that fort, to the south. The authorities have also taken cognizance of this transgression. All these facts, confirm the rumours which I was convinced were true, of the presence of a vessel on the coast waiting to take in slaves. It does not appear to me, that either the capture of the 105 slaves, or the sailing of the schooner "Conselho" to the south, are serious obstacles to the realization of that criminal enterprise. According to information which I can depend upon, it appears that there are already slaves collected at the point of embarkation, and that several launches have passed to the south with slaves, coming like the one that was captured, from the direction of Novo Redondo and Quicombo. Therefore, I have no doubt that the slaver will have already completed her shipment by the time the schooner "Conselho" arrives there. All this renders it my duty to urge the necessity of sending the "Serra do Pilar" or another vessel if possible,

and if the shipment which is going on cannot be prevented, which is unfortunately too probable, future shipments may at least be prevented, for I have reason to believe, that the slave-dealers are disposed to profit by the complete absence of cruizers, both national and English, to carry on their enterprises with facility.

I have not yet been able to dispatch the launch "Quinze de Maio" owing to the want of repairs for enabling her to carry the gun, and other requirements for the service to which she is destined. I am, however, actively engaged in getting her ready. It would be well if another midshipman was sent to command her, as Carlos F. P. d'Almeida's services cannot be spared from Loanda.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE RODRIGUES COELHO DO AMARAL.

Inclosure 8 in No. 333.

The Provisional Government of Angola to the Department of Marine.

(Translation.)

Illustrious and Excellent Sir.

Loanda, March 31, 1854.

IN continuation of the confidential despatch addressed to your Excellency by this Government on the 23rd instant, we have the honour to place in your Excellency's hands, the inclosed copies of the Governor of Benguella's despatches, dated the 21st and 24th respectively, from which your Excellency will perceive, that unfortunately, the criminal attempts at illegal Traffic are still continued to the south of this city, and, that a lot of slaves numbering about 400 having left Benguella, in the direction of Dombe Grande, the Governor of that district as soon as he knew of the departure of so large a number of slaves from the city, had taken such prompt measures that he was enabled to capture 105 of them, and two of the conductors, the others having escaped; and that finally this affair as well as that of the capture of a launch conveying slaves from Novo Redondo, or from the vicinity of that fort, to the south, are already in the hands of the judicial power, to be proceeded with according to law.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

BISHOP OF ANGOLA.
FAUSTINO DOS SANTOS CRESPU.
JOAO JACINTO TAVARES.

No. 334.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, copy of a despatch* and of its inclosures, which I have received from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, reporting the shipment of a number of slaves on board a transport belonging to the Government of Angola, and calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to this infraction of the Slave Trade Treaty of 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal. I also transmit to you a copy of the reply† which, after consulting the proper Law Officer of the Crown, I have returned to the Commissioners; and I have to instruct you to call the serious attention of the Portuguese Government to a state of things so disgraceful, as well as at variance with the Treaty, and which, Her Majesty's Government are convinced, must therefore be unknown to them, but which should immediately, and in the most public manner, be put an end to.

Her Majesty's Government trust, that the highly proper conduct which Senhor Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station at Loanda, is stated by the Commissioners to have pursued in this matter, may be approved by his Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* Class A, No. 64.

† Ibid., No. 70.

No. 335.

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

My Lord,

Cintra, October 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 2nd of this month to receive your Lordship's despatch of 26th September, with its inclosures, relating to the shipment of a number of slaves on board a transport belonging to the Government of Angola, which scandalous infraction of the Treaty between the two countries is represented by Her Majesty's Commissioner to have been committed with the express and avowed consent of the persons provisionally charged with the Government of Angola.

I have addressed a note to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs in the sense of your Lordship's instructions upon this subject, and in this note I have not failed to claim the attention of the Portuguese Government to the highly proper conduct which Senhor Rodvalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station at Loanda, is stated by the Commissioner to have pursued in the transactions referred to, and which forms such a contrast to that of the other superior authorities of the colony.

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

No. 336.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 18, 1854.

SOME progress appears at length to have been made in the organisation of the company for the settlement and improvement of the Province of Mozambique, of the intended establishment of which company I had the honour to inform Her Majesty's Government by my despatch of 28th June, 1853.*

I have now before me a rough copy in print, of the report of the committee appointed to represent the Government in coming to an understanding with the promoters of the scheme, as to the terms of the intended grant, the privileges and obligations of the company, and other such details; and also the draft of the agreement which it is proposed to conclude with the company upon all these points, and which will form what may be called the charter of the association.

I find the projected enterprise to be much more comprehensive and important than I had at first been led to suppose, as it contemplates nothing less than the cession to the company for a term of ninety-nine years of the administration and possession of the entire Province of Mozambique, somewhat upon the principle of our East India Company.

The capital is in the first instance to be 1,000,000*l.* sterling, divided into 50,000 shares of 20*l.* each, with power to double the amount if it should be found expedient.

The professed object of the company is "to colonize and civilize the East African possessions of Portugal, by the propagation of the Faith, the effective abolition of the Slave Trade, the progressive emancipation of the slaves already existing, until they shall all have been made free, and by education and the development of industry and commerce in all their branches."

I have read over, with a good deal of attention, the proposed Articles of agreement between the Portuguese Government and the company, and I do not find anything in them to which I think Her Majesty's Government would be disposed to object; but there is an omission which it is fit that I should mention to your Lordship, namely, that nothing is said in this charter or contract as to the intercourse of foreign countries with the Province of Mozambique under the contemplated change, nor as to how far the obligations of existing Treaties are to be considered binding on the company, in as

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 299.

far as they may be applicable to the case; for I presume that, inasmuch as the Sovereignty of the Portuguese Crown over the territory of Mozambique is not alienated by the proposed new order of things, the company will still be bound, in matters of trade and navigation, and in every thing relating to the security of foreigners and their property, by the stipulations of Treaties antecedent to the grant now about to be made.

I am sorry that it is not in my power, owing to the indisposition of Mr. Henderson, our translator, to transmit copies and translations of the papers referred to in this despatch, by the present packet, but I hope to be able to forward them to your Lordship by an early opportunity.

As to the probable success of this bold and comprehensive undertaking, I will not venture to offer an opinion; but it strikes me that two serious difficulties at least are likely to beset the company at the beginning of its operations: the first, that of raising the necessary amount of capital to set the company a-going; the second, that of finding persons possessing sufficient intelligence, energy, and integrity, successfully to manage the company's affairs, at such a distance from home, and in a country which, from its geographical position, must be so little congenial to European constitutions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 337.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch,* with its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Rendall, Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape Verd Islands, reporting that a slaver, with 550 slaves on board, had touched at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, and, after remaining there nine days taking in water, had sailed for the Havana.

I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to Mr. Rendall's statement that Terrafal de Monte Trigo is a favourite resort of slavers, and to press strongly upon them the adoption of Mr. Rendall's recommendation that a fort should be established on the bay for the purpose of checking such piratical proceedings.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 338.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 28, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of 9th July, and to my despatches of the 18th July and 28th August, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the Viscount Sá da Bandeira, President of the Ultra-Marine Council, has had the goodness to show me the draft of the Decree which is about to be published for the registration of slaves, and, what is still better, their eventual emancipation in the Portuguese Colonies.

According to this Decree the registration of slaves is to take place immediately after the publication of the Decree in the respective colonies, after which day all children of slave-parents will be free from the moment of their birth.

The process by which the emancipation of persons now in a state of slavery is to be accomplished is rather a curious one.

According to the law of Portugal, when any property is taken possession of for the service of the State, or for an object of public utility, the owner is

* No. 370.

indemnified at the rate of twenty years' value of such property. Adopting this principle on the one hand, and on the other, seeing that the condition of the Portuguese finances is not such as to enable the Government to indemnify the owners in money for the emancipation of their slaves, it is proposed to carry the indemnification into effect by allowing the owner the use of his slaves, subject to registration and to the superintendence of a Board of Guardians, for fourteen years, the slaves to be then declared absolutely free, and payment to be made to the owners, in money, for the estimated value of the slaves' labour for the remaining term of six years, so as to complete the twenty years' purchase contemplated by law.

It is presumed that at the expiration of fourteen years, one-third of the slave population now in existence will have disappeared in the course of nature, and that the pecuniary compensation to be then paid for the estimated value of the slaves' labour for the remaining six years will not amount to such a sum as to make it inconvenient to the country to provide for it.

Such, my Lord, I think are the leading provisions of this important measure—one which Her Majesty's Government, as well as the friends of humanity in this country, have long wished to see adopted, and which I hope your Lordship will now, in a short time, have the satisfaction of seeing carried into effect.

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

No. 339.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, October 28, 1854.

IN fulfilment of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th July,* I have again inquired of the Viscount d'Athoguia how soon it is likely that he will be able to dispatch a reinforcement to the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa; and he tells me, that the repairs of the brig "Villa Flor" are now nearly completed, and that he hopes to be able to send her away in the course of a few days, to be followed by another small vessel as soon as she can be got ready.

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

No. 340.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 7, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo,† stating that the Portuguese Government is about to publish a Decree providing for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonies, and for their eventual emancipation.

I have to instruct you to inform the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have received the intelligence with great satisfaction, and that they desire to congratulate the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty upon the adoption of this wise and liberal decision, which they trust will be attended with all the happy results which it is eminently calculated to produce.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 341.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 7, 1854,

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo,* and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government have learnt with satisfaction that the Viscount d'Athoquia hopes shortly to be able to reinforce the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 342.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 14.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 7, 1854.

I HAVE duly fulfilled the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th October, which I had the honour to receive on the 2nd of this month, by communicating to the Portuguese Government the papers therewith inclosed, relative to the appearance of a slave-trading vessel at a remote part in the Island of St. Antonio, Cape de Verds; which occurrence, as well as the perfect security with which this vessel was enabled to remain in a Portuguese harbour for nine days, receiving a supply of provisions and water, seemed to your Lordship to suggest the expediency of establishing a military port or fort, near to the Bay of Terrafal de Monte de Trigo, to prevent that bay from being made use of as a place of refuge and refreshment for vessels engaged in the Slave Trade.

Having heard from my colleague the Brazilian Minister that a person had arrived at Lisbon, by the Portuguese steam-packet "Donna Maria Segunda" which lately touched at the Cape de Verds, and who was suspected to be the one mentioned in Mr. Consul Rendall's letter to the Military Governor of St. Vincent's, as having landed from the slaver at the Bay of Terrafal, and whom the Military Governor of St. Vincent's had determined to detain until the pleasure of the Governor-General respecting him should be ascertained, I proceeded with my Brazilian colleague to call the attention of the Viscount d'Athoquia to this circumstance, in order that proper inquiry might be made as to how a person so evidently implicated in a slave-trading enterprise had been allowed by the Governor-General to quit the Island of St. Vincent, and to prosecute his voyage to Lisbon with impunity; but I have not yet heard the result of the investigation which the Viscount d'Athoquia promised to set on foot respecting this occurrence.

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

No. 343.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th instant, in which you state that you had called the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact, that a slaver had been allowed to remain unmolested for some days at the Island of St. Antonio, Cape Verds; and that you had requested that an inquiry might be made into the circumstances under which a person

* No. 339.

supposed to be connected with that vessel had been allowed by the Governor-General of the Cape Verds to proceed to Lisbon; and I have to state to you that I approve the manner in which you have executed my instruction on this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 344.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of September, and to your reply thereto of the 8th ultimo, on the subject of the shipment of slaves at Angola on board a Government transport, I transmit to you herewith for your information a copy of a letter which I have received from Commander Phillips, Royal Navy, late of Her Majesty's ship "Polyphemus" containing remarks on the manner in which the Treaty of 1842 is evaded at Loanda by field negroes being made to pass as domestic slaves, and being so conveyed in Portuguese transports to St. Thomas's; and I have to instruct you to address a further note upon this subject to the Portuguese Government, in which you will adopt the suggestions contained in Commander Phillips's letter, and urge them to take the necessary measures to prevent an improper use being made of the Portuguese flag by the colonial transports, which appear to claim the privileges legitimately belonging to vessels of the Royal Navy only.

I also inclose a copy of an advertisement published in an official Gazette at Angola, which has been sent to me by Captain Phillips, and of which you will make use in your communication to the Portuguese Government, as showing that the vessels which the Portuguese naval officers command are merely merchant-vessels.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 344.

Commander Phillips to the Earl of Clarendon.

My Lord,

Greenwich Park, November 11, 1854.

I BEG most respectfully to submit to your consideration a few remarks that have occurred to me during recent service on the west coast of Africa, in command of one of Her Majesty's steamers of war.

2. The first fact I would call attention to, is the practice lately adopted by the Portuguese Colonial Government of Angola, by which the stringent regulations for the removal of domestic or household slaves by sea, laid down in Article V of our suppression Treaty with that country, are evaded and violated, and field slaves (*escravos do campo*) contrary to the intentions of the said Treaty removed and doubtless frequently transhipped in the offing or secluded parts of the coast to regular slave vessels.

3. The first of these objectionable practices consists in the incomplete filling up of the passports which are required in the case contemplated by that particular Article of the Treaty—I obtained a sight of several of these passports at the Island of St. Thomas, last June. They had been used to cover a shipment of slaves under Article V, which Her Majesty's Commissioners at St. Paul de Loanda had discovered, too late, were irregular. These passports I considered informal and incomplete, inasmuch as no description of the class of persons, whose removal they were intended to legalise, was contained in the documents which merely stated that they were the property of such and such persons, and *de su servicio*, instead of being *de servicio de su casa*. In this particular case, I know that Her Majesty's Commissioners at

St. Paul de Loanda were fully persuaded that many of the negroes so removed were field slaves. The passports in question were granted by the Government of St. Paul de Loanda, and delivered at the Island of St. Thomas where, as I have stated, I saw them, pointed out the informality to the Governor, and told him had I fallen in with the vessel which carried the persons for whose passage they were granted, I would have seized her. He (the Portuguese Governor) affected surprise, told me, that the documents having been granted by competent authority he had considered them legal, and suffered the slaves to be landed. To avoid as much as possible the interference of British cruizers, the second practice has obtained, to which I venture to call your Lordship's attention, viz., that the Colonial Government of Portuguese Angola are in the habit of employing the small coasting craft of the country as colonial transports nominally commanded by subaltern officers of the Portuguese Royal Navy, who wear the uniform, and carry a pendant, and yet these vessels advertise for cargo and passengers like merchant-vessels. I made it my business to inform myself of the exact character of these vessels, because I had become aware, that if our cruizers permitted them to assume that of vessels of the Royal Navy of Portugal, it would be giving the slave-traders very great advantages over us, in carrying on their iniquitous Traffic. On this subject, I obtained an interview with the Portuguese naval officer at the moment in command at St. Paul de Loanda. Without directly claiming for them the character of vessels of the Portuguese navy, he evidently wished to class them with our "Sidon," "Vulcan," and other regularly commissioned troop ships, between which description of vessel and what we consider transports, he was unable or unwilling to understand the very essential difference.

4. Our cruizers ought to keep a strict eye on these vessels, and will have to disregard the insignia displayed, and generally understood to be reserved for the national marine of all maritime nations. The most obvious means of hindering vessels from assuming a character they do not possess, I mean that of the national armed force, is the re-adoption of private signals between the properly commissioned cruizers of the two Royal Navies.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

C. GERRANS PHILLIPS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 344.

Advertisement published in an official Gazette at Angola

NAVIO a sahir. A escuna "Conselho," do commando do 2º Teniente d'Armada Saturnino, largará para os portos do sul até Mossamedes no dia 8 de Maio. Recbe carga da praça e passageiros.

No. 345.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 18, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 7th November.

I have had great pleasure in fulfilling the instructions contained in the first despatch of that date* by informing the Portuguese Government that Her Majesty's Government had heard with much satisfaction of the intended Decree providing for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonies, and for their eventual emancipation; and that Her Majesty's Government desire to congratulate the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty upon the adoption of this wise and liberal measure.

Since I had last the honour of writing to your Lordship on this subject, I have ascertained, that of the five Ministers who compose the Portuguese Cabinet, four had already signified their approval of the proposed Decree, and

* No. 340.

their readiness to sign it; and that the project was now in the hands of the Minister of Finance, waiting his approval.

I therefore made it my business to call upon the Minister of Finance, and explain to him the friendly interest taken by Her Majesty's Government in the adoption of a measure so much calculated to do honour to the Portuguese nation, and, as Her Majesty's Government believed, so likely to contribute to the permanent prosperity of the Portuguese colonies; and I earnestly begged his Excellency not to allow the other pressing avocations of his office to divert his attention from the important measure in contemplation, which only wanted his assent to be submitted for the Royal approval, and to become law.

Senhor Fontes had the goodness to say, that he would bear my recommendation in mind, and endeavour to devote his first moment of leisure to the consideration of the measure of which we spoke; that he had already a general knowledge of the provisions of the intended Decree, and that although there were some of them which he thought might be amended, he was so much in favour of the principle of the measure, that he was disposed, upon the whole, to defer at once to the opinions of his colleagues, and subscribe the Decree in its present form, rather than incur the risk of delay, and perhaps ultimate disappointment, by raising a discussion upon points of minor importance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 346.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1854.

WITH reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the expulsion of the slave-trader Flores from Angola, I transmit to you herewith for your information a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Slave Trade Commissioners at Loanda, from which it appears that the Provisional Government at that place had received the order for the expulsion of Flores, but had allowed him to remain five months at Loanda for the purpose of winding up his alleged mercantile transactions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 347.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 25, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 18th instant, and I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having urged the Portuguese Minister of Finance not to delay giving his assent to the proposed Decree for the registration of slaves in the Portuguese Colonies.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 348.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, November 27, 1854.

I HAD the honour, on the 21st of this month, to receive your Lordship's despatches of the 15th and 16th instant.

I beg herewith to submit a copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in the second of these despatches, I have addressed to

* See Class A, No. 74.

the Viscount d'Athoquia, communicating the information furnished to your Lordship by Commander Phillips, late of Her Majesty's ship "Polyphemus," relative to the evasions and infractions of the Treaty of 1842 between Great Britain and Portugal, which are tolerated and countenanced by the Colonial Government of Angola in the transportation of field-negroes, improperly passed as domestic slaves from the continent to the Portuguese islands.

I take this opportunity also to lay before your Lordship a copy of a note which I wrote to the Viscount d'Athoquia upon the same subject on 3rd of last month in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th of September last, to which note I have as yet received no answer beyond the usual intimation that it had been forwarded to the Marine and Colonial Department.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 348.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Cintra, October 3, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has received instructions to call the serious attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to certain open and undisguised violations of the Treaty between Great Britain and Portugal for the suppression of the Slave Trade, committed by the authorities provisionally charged with the Government of the Province of Angola, of which Her Majesty's Government have lately received the unwelcome intelligence.

Some particulars respecting these illegal and unjustifiable transactions will be found in the inclosed copies of two communications from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda to the persons highest in authority in the province, calling upon them, while it was yet time, to prevent the contemplated infraction of the Treaty, and recapitulating the statements which the Commissioners had previously made at an interview with those authorities for the same purpose, but all without effect.

The leading facts of this extraordinary case, as they have been reported to Her Majesty's Government, are as follows:—

On the 12th April, Her Majesty's Commissioner received certain information that a transport, the "*Trindade*," belonging to this Colonial Government, commanded by a Lieutenant in the Portuguese navy, and which sailed hence for St. Thomas on the evening of the 8th, had shipped a very considerable number of slaves, stated by some at 40, by others at 60 and upwards.

This very same transport, in a trip she made to St. Thomas's in January last, carried off nearly 100 slaves, who were sold, on their arrival there, at a high premium. This is matter of notoriety; and Her Majesty's Commissioner, at the same time that he received the information respecting the slaves in the "*Trindade*," learnt that it was intended to ship a further batch on board another colonial transport, similarly circumstanced, called the "*Esperanza*," on the eve of sailing thence for Lisbon, *via* St. Thomas.

For a day or two it seemed doubtful, and the Government were said to have prohibited any such further shipment; but eventually Her Majesty's Commissioner having reason to believe that it was to be persisted in, proposed to the Portuguese Commissioner to join in a representation on the subject to the President of the Provisional Government, a step which that gentleman declined to take, saying he preferred, as a Portuguese functionary, to address himself singly to the Government. This he accordingly did, as did also Captain Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station, both calling on the Executive, in very energetic terms, not to allow so gross an infraction of the Treaty as was said to be in contemplation to be carried into effect. All proved in vain; the members of the Provisional Government individually and collectively insisted, verbally—for they have taken good care not to commit themselves in writing on this point—that they fully understood the Treaty, and that what they were about to commit was no violation of it.

This was reported to Her Majesty's Commissioner on the 18th, and finding

that the transport was actually to sail that evening with at least 10 slaves, he proposed to his colleague Her Majesty's Arbitrator, to repair with him instanter to the Palace, and urge upon the President of the Government a reconsideration of the resolution which it was understood had been come to. On their admission his Excellency at once stopped all practical discussion or argument by interrupting Her Majesty's Commissioner, who, with the Treaty in his hand, was about to point out its provisions and requirements, by saying that he had studied and understood the Treaty thoroughly, and that it was, therefore, needless to read it. Much desultory and most unsatisfactory discussion, however, did occur, the purport of which will best be collected from a perusal of the inclosed note which, on their return home, the Commissioners hastened to draw up and forward whilst the transport was yet in the harbour.

It chanced that that night a heavy storm prevented her going to sea, and the following morning the Commandant of the Naval Station, to whom the officer in command of the transport, also Lieutenant in the navy, had applied for advice, went on board her, and took upon himself to make a register of every soul he found in the vessel, and to prohibit the shipment of a single slave beyond the number of 10, whom he erroneously considered, in consequence of the Government's representation and passport, as belonging to a colono, and as coming in this way within the scope of the Treaty. He also cautioned the Lieutenant not to allow any launch to go alongside the transport when outside the harbour, as he apprehended an attempt of the kind might be made, so anxious were parties to effect the shipment of their slaves on board this vessel, some of whom, failing in this, relinquished their passage, and remained behind in the city after they had obtained their passports, making no secret of their reason for so doing.

For these steps, not, he says, warranted by his actual sphere of duty, Captain Rodovalho holds himself responsible to his Government, to whom he has written, trusting that the motives which induced them, jealousy for the honour of Portugal and of his country's flag, will be deemed by them a legitimate excuse for his interposing in a matter which concerned the provincial Government and not the naval station.

In consequence of the application above spoken of from the commanding officer of the transport, Captain Rodovalho reiterated his previous remonstrance in an official letter, but neither to that, to the representation of the Portuguese Commissioner, nor to the note of Her Majesty's Commissioner, has any answer been given.

Under these circumstances, and having ascertained every particular respecting the individual who figured as a settler and the owner of the 10 slaves, he was allowed to ship on board the "*Esperanza*," the Commissioners thought it right to address a second note to the Colonial Government, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.

The Commissioners have transmitted the inclosed three official "*Boletims*" that report the sailing of the vessels which successively embarked the slaves as above referred to, Nos. 445, 446, and 447. From that of the 1st December it will be seen that the "*Trindade*" is reported as having sailed for St. Thomas's and Prince's on the 22nd January with forty-seven passengers; from the 2nd, that she is said to have sailed again for those islands on the 8th of April with five passengers; and from the 3rd, that the "*Esperanza*" sailed for Lisbon, to touch at St. Thomas's and Prince's, with sixty-five passengers on the 19th instant.

In neither of these reports is any mention made either of slaves or of colours, the fact being, that in the first of these three voyages, which occurred during the government of the Viscount of Pinheiro, a number little short of 100 slaves were carried off, most of the passengers figuring as colonos, and taking accordingly each so many, professedly to settle with in the islands, whereas there was not one entitled to be thus considered; so little so, indeed, that some of them had even arrived in the steamer which brought the Viscount to Loanda; in the 2nd voyage, one of these latter, and who, during his stay here, had been a guest of the Juiz de Direito, figured as a settler.

There will be found the names of two other individuals, who were also allowed to embark in the "*Trindade*" with their slaves under the same fiction (J. V. de Carvalho and J. B. de l'Azavara), as having arrived from the islands on the return voyage of that vessel from thence on the 15th March. This will appear from the "*Boletim*" No. 442 also annexed, it being pretty

certain that they were among the forty-seven passengers reported as having sailed from Loanda in that same transport in January.

In the third voyage, that of the "*Esperanza*," thanks to the timely interference of Captain Rodovalho, 10 slaves only were taken away, 5 of whom were boys and 5 girls, from 12 to 15 years of age.

In calling the attention of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government to a state of things so reprehensible, and so much at variance with the engagements of Portugal on the subject of the Slave Trade, the Undersigned is instructed to express the confident expectation of Her Majesty's Government that measures will be taken immediately, and in the most public manner, to put an end to such abuses.

The view taken of certain clauses in the Treaty, to which the members of the Provisional Government will probably refer in justification of their proceedings, is so clearly and palpably erroneous that it would be to waste the time of the Portuguese Government or the Undersigned to offer any remarks in refutation of arguments so futile. It will be seen that Senhor Rodovalho, the Commandant of the Naval Station at Loanda, was not backward in endeavouring to induce the Provisional Government, and also the commander of the transport, to abandon the enterprise in which they were about to embark in open violation of the Treaty.

Her Majesty's Government have especially instructed the Undersigned to point out to His Most Faithful Majesty's Government the highly proper conduct of Senhor Rodovalho on this occasion, which Her Majesty's Government hope will receive, at the hands of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, the approval which it deserves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 348.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Lisbon, November 23, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., had the honour on the 3rd of last month to bring to the notice of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government certain information which had reached Her Majesty's Government, relative to infractions of the Treaty between the two countries for the suppression of the Slave Trade, committed by the superior authorities of the province of Angola.

It now becomes the duty of the Undersigned, in fulfilment of instructions from Her Majesty's Government, again to address his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoquia upon this unpleasant subject, in the hope that his Excellency will be pleased to cause measures to be taken to put a stop to the abuses of which Her Majesty's Government have cause to complain, and to adopt the suggestion which with that view the Undersigned is instructed to submit.

It is represented to Her Majesty's Government by an officer lately in command of one of Her Majesty's ships on the west coast of Africa, that the stringent regulations contained in Article V of the Treaty of July, 1842, with regard to the removal of domestic or household slaves by sea, are now systematically evaded and violated by the Colonial Government of Angola, and that field slaves ("*escravos do campo*") are, contrary to the intention of the Treaty, removed, and doubtless frequently transshipped in the offing, or on secluded parts of the coast, to regular slave-ships.

One of the practices resorted to, to cover this abuse, consists in the incomplete filling up of the passports required in such cases by Article V of the Treaty to render legal the removal of domestic slaves, supposing the transaction to be in other respects a *bonâ fide* one.

Several of these passports, deficient in the requisites pointed out by the Treaty, were seen at the Island of St. Thomas in the month of June last, by Commander Phillips, of Her Majesty's ship "*Polyphemus*."

In the case in question, the passports were informal and incomplete, inasmuch as no description (such as is distinctly required by clause 5 of Article V of the Treaty) of the class of persons whose removal they were intended to legalise, was to be found in them. They merely stated that the negroes were

the property of such and such persons, and “*de su serviço*,” instead of “*de serviço de su casa*.” Had the vessel which conveyed the slaves, embarked with passports such as these, been fallen in with by a British cruiser, it would have been the duty of the officer in command to detain her, and bring her into port for trial, when, according to the conditions of Article V of the Treaty, she must have been condemned.

Another practice which has been introduced, and which, as was shown in the note which the Undersigned had the honour to address to his Excellency the Viscount d’Athoquia on the 3rd of last month, serves to cover the illegal transportation of slaves from the continent to the islands, is the employment of small coasting craft of the country as colonial transports, nominally commanded by subaltern officers of the Portuguese Royal Navy, who wear the uniform and hoist a pendant, such vessels nevertheless advertising for cargo and passengers, and carrying on the business of common merchant-vessels. At an interview which Commander Phillips had with the Portuguese naval officer commanding at St. Paul’s de Loanda, in the early part of this year, the latter officer, without directly claiming for such vessels the character of vessels of the Portuguese navy, seemed to suppose that they were of the same character as some vessels belonging to the British navy, regularly commissioned, and in all respects forming part of the Royal Navy of Great Britain, which are principally employed in the conveyance of troops, whereas the colonial vessels in question do not form part of the Royal Navy of Portugal, and cannot therefore claim the privileges and distinctions attaching to that character, and still less so when employed in the transportation of slaves under circumstances forbidden by the Treaty between the two countries, and consequently exposing such vessels to the risk of capture and condemnation. To prevent abuses of this kind, it is suggested to Her Majesty’s Government, and the Undersigned is instructed to submit the suggestion for the consideration of His Most Faithful Majesty’s Government, that the most obvious means of hindering vessels from assuming a character which they do not possess (that of belonging to the national armed force), would be the readoption of private signals between the properly commissioned cruisers of the two Royal navies.

The following copy of an advertisement which appeared in the “*Boletim Official*” of Angola of 29th April last, will show that the colonial vessels commanded by Portuguese naval officers on the coast of Africa are merely merchant-vessels.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

Advertisement in the “Boletim Official” of Angola of the 29th April, 1854.

NAVIO a sahir.—A escuna “*Conselho*,” do Commando do Segundo Teniente da Armada Saturnino, largará para os portos do sul até Mossamedes no dia 8 de Maio. Recebe carga da praça e passageiros.

No. 349.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 8, 1854.

I HAD the honour on the 5th of this month to receive your Lordship’s despatches of the 25th November.

I will not fail to direct the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact reported in the despatch from Her Majesty’s Commissioners at Loanda of 5th July last, a copy of which accompanies your Lordship’s above despatch,* namely, that notwithstanding the order issued by the Minister for the Marine and Colonial Department on 22nd February last, for the expulsion of the slave-dealer Francisco Antonio Flores with the least possible delay, the

* No. 340.

Local Government had allowed him to remain at Loanda five months, for the purpose of winding up his alleged mercantile affairs, thus affording a fresh proof of the countenance and encouragement extended by those authorities to persons notoriously concerned in the Slave Trade.

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

No. 350.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 8, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of 29th July last,* by which I was instructed to report to your Lordship whether a vessel was sent for the purpose of reinforcing the Portuguese squadron on the west coast of Africa, and to my despatch of the 28th October,† by which I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that in reply to my renewed inquiry as to how soon it was likely that the Marine Department would be able to dispatch the promised reinforcement, the Viscount d'Athoguia had told me that he hoped to be able to send away the brig of war "Villa Flor" in the course of a few days, to be followed by another small vessel as soon as she could be got ready; I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the brig "Villa Flor" sailed for the coast of Africa on the 29th of last month.

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

No. 351.

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

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to submit a copy of a note which, in fulfilment of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 26th October, I addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 3rd of last month, communicating the information which your Lordship had received from Mr. Consul Rendall, relative to the appearance of a slave-ship with a great number of slaves on board, at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, Island of St. Antonio, Cape de Verds, and suggesting, as further directed by your Lordship, the expediency of establishing a fort or military post in that part of the island to prevent the Bay of Terrafal from becoming a place of resort for slavers.

I have the honour also to inclose a translation of the answer which I have received from Viscount d'Athoguia upon this subject, in which it is stated that up to the 4th of this month no information beyond that contained in my note of 3rd November, had reached the Marine and Colonial Department relative to the occurrence referred to in that note—probably because the Governor-General of the province was away, at the Island of Brava—but that instructions had been sent to the Governor-General to report his opinion as to the expediency of constructing forts at the Bay of Terrafal, and other places in the Island of St. Antonio, in order to prevent the repetition of such occurrences.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that the Viscount d'Athoguia assures me that he has received no intelligence whatever about the individual stated by Mr. Consul Rendall to have been detained by the Military Governor of St. Vincent, subject to the orders of the Governor-General, on suspicion of being connected with the slave-ship reported in Mr. Consul Rendall's

* No. 322.

† No. 339.

letter, and that he concludes that a person so situated would not have been allowed to quit the Island of St. Vincent without some explanation, on the part of the Local Government, as to the circumstances which had led to his arrest, and ultimately to his liberation.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 351.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoguia.

Sir,

Lisbon, November 3, 1854.

I AM instructed to place in your Excellency's hands the inclosed copies of a despatch lately received by Her Majesty's Government from Her Majesty's Consul at the Cape de Verde Islands, and of its inclosures, being copies of a correspondence which had passed between Mr. Rendall and the Military Governor of St. Vincent, relating to the arrival of a slaver, with 550 slaves on board, at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, Island of St. Antonio, where having remained in security for nine days taking in a supply of water the vessel again put to sea in prosecution of her voyage to the Havana.

In directing your Excellency's attention to this occurrence and to the various circumstances connected with it, which are detailed in Mr. Consul Rendall's letter, I am instructed more particularly to press upon your Excellency the adoption of Mr. Rendall's suggestion that a fort should be established on the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, which is represented to be a favourite resort for slave-vessels, as at that anchorage they are concealed from observation from seaward, and water and refreshments are there procurable in abundance.

It also presents according to Mr. Rendall's statement, as at present circumstanced, the advantage of being at such a distance from any Portuguese authority, that a slaver has time to complete her stock of provisions and water before any force can arrive to interfere with her.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 351.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 6, 1854.

HAVING brought to the knowledge of the Marine Department, as I made known to you on the 9th of November last, the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 3rd of the same month, respecting the arrival of a slaver at the port of Terrafal, in the Island of St. Antonio, Cape de Verde, I have the honour to acquaint you, that on the 4th instant that Department informed me that no communication had as yet been received on this subject, doubtless owing to the absence of the Governor-General of the province at the Island Brava, but that on the same day instructions had been sent to the Governor-General to take the proper measures, and requiring of him a report as to the advantages of constructing forts in the port of Terrafal as well as in other similar positions, for the purpose of preventing a repetition of similar occurrences.

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

No. 352.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, inclosing copies of letters which had been addressed to them by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and of a correspondence which had taken place between that officer and the Council of Government at Loanda, respecting the seizure of certain launches in the river Congo, and as to the right of one Francisco Franque, the so-called Governor of Porto Rico, to issue passports to coasting vessels.

I have communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty my approval of the view taken by Commander Skene of this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 353.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December, 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit a translation of a note from the Viscount d'Athoquia, dated the 13th of this month, in which it is stated, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, that the Portuguese brig-of-war "Villa Flor" has sailed for the west coast of Africa, furnished with the instructions required by the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, to cruise against the Slave Trade.

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

Inclosure in No. 353.

Viscount d'Athoquia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, that in a despatch of yesterday's date, I am informed through the Marine Department, that on the 29th ultimo, the brig "Villa Flor," carrying ten guns, and commanded by the First Lieutenant of the Portuguese Navy, Antonio Augusto d'Oliveira, the second in command being the Second Lieutenant, José Maximo Jaques dos Reis, sailed from this port furnished with instructions in conformity with the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, to act in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the station on the west coast of Africa, and the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince.

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

* See Class A, No. 76.

No. 354.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 5, 1855.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 29, 1854.

THE Decree for the registration of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal, which has been so long promised by the Portuguese Government, and which it was at first intended should contain some provisions for the eventual emancipation of the slave population, has at last made its appearance, and will be found in the number of the Official Journal, being that of yesterday, which I have the honour herewith to inclose.

A translation of this Decree is in course of preparation, and will be forwarded by the first opportunity.

As relates to registration, the provisions of this Decree seem, as far as they go, to be sufficiently clear and peremptory; but I do not think that they are altogether as comprehensive as might be desired.

For instance, I do not find that any obligation is imposed on the owner to report the death of a slave when one takes place, or to declare, from time to time, any change which may have been made in the number of his slaves, whether by increase or diminution, although such precautions would seem to be very necessary to prevent fraud and abuse.

As relates to emancipation, your Lordship will be disappointed at finding that little is effected by the present Decree towards the immediate accomplishment of that object except as concerns slaves, the property of the State, who are declared to be free from the date of publication of the Decree.

But the tendency of the various regulations introduced by it is altogether beneficent, and likely, if duly enforced, to effect a great improvement in the condition of the negroes.

The Viscount d'Athoguia informed me some days ago, that after repeated consultation on the difficult subject of emancipation, it had been found impossible to provide the means of carrying that part of the measure into execution at present, consistently with an equitable regard to the interests of the slave-owners as relates particularly to compensation; and that it was, therefore, thought advisable to produce the Decree as it now stands, in order that the advantages to be derived from registration and the other beneficent enactments of the Decree might be immediately secured, in preference to waiting for them until the whole measure originally contemplated could be matured.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

No. 355.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 8, 1855.

I HAVE the honour herewith to transmit a translation of the Decree lately published by the Portuguese Government, for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves, in the Portuguese Colonial possessions, a copy of which Decree I had the honour to forward with my despatch of 29th of last month.

Since I had the honour of writing to your Lordship, I have had some conversation with the Viscount d'Athoguia upon the subject of this Decree.

I observed to him, that although Her Majesty's Government would undoubtedly view with satisfaction the effort thus made by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, towards the attainment of a wise and beneficent object, they would nevertheless experience a certain degree of disappointment at finding that the measure introduced by the Decree of 14th December, falls so far short of what had been contemplated by the original project, which we had been led to expect would be that submitted for the royal approval.

Amongst the provisions contained in the Decree as at first proposed, and which are not to be found in that finally adopted, was one declaring that every child born of a slave mother in a Portuguese possession should be free from the moment of its birth. The Viscount d'Athoguia replied, that he and his colleagues regretted this omission, which, however, they had upon reflection felt obliged to consent to, and this from motives of humanity, derived from the painful conviction, that to proclaim the freedom of infants, the offspring of slaves, while the parents were retained in a state of bondage, and thus to divest the owner of the parents of all interest in the well-being of the children, would in the generality of cases, be to condemn the latter to a state of abandonment and neglect, and in many cases probably, to something worse. That as the best substitute for the absolute freedom of all slave children, which it was at first intended to enforce, the condition had been adopted of making it lawful for any person, charitably disposed to take charge of such children, and to secure their freedom, to redeem them when they are presented for baptism, on payment of the sum of one mil reis. Other provisions of the Decree all tending to the object at which it is hoped and intended ultimately to arrive, the Viscount d'Athoguia referred to as likely to be acceptable to Her Majesty's Government, such as the clause declaring all slaves the property of the State, to be free from the date of publication of the Decree; that by which it is enacted that children, the offspring of a woman with whom the master should be known to have lived in a state of concubinage, shall be free also; and finally, that by which the privilege of purchasing their own freedom at a valuation to be conducted upon fair and liberal principles, is secured henceforth to the whole slave population. With respect to that part of the Decree which speaks of registration, I could not help pointing out to the Viscount d'Athoguia, the omission, to which I ventured to direct your Lordship's notice in my last despatch upon the subject, of all precautions against fraud and abuse, such as slave masters might be tempted to practise, when a slave died or ran away, by filling up his place by a fresh importation, and I suggested that some of the regulations upon this point, which are contained in Annex C to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, providing for the treatment of liberated negroes, might have been advantageously introduced into the Decree lately promulgated. The Viscount d'Athoguia acknowledged the propriety of this suggestion, and said that he would endeavour to remedy the defect which I had pointed out, by making it a matter of instruction to the Governors of the Colonies to prescribe, as an administrative measure, that an account should be periodically furnished by slave-owners, of whatever alteration might take place in their stock of negroes from whatever cause.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 26th December, inclosing a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, with copies of letters which had been addressed to them by Commander Skene, of Her Majesty's ship "Philomel," and of a correspondence which had taken place, between that officer and the Council of Government at Loanda, respecting the seizure of certain launches in the River Congo, and as to the rights of one Francisco Franque, the so-called Governor of Porto Rico, to issue passports to coasting vessels.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. PAKENHAM.

Inclosure in No. 355.

Decree.

(Translation.)

Marine and Colonial Department.

TAKING into consideration the urgent necessity for obviating the many and serious inconveniences resulting from the uncertainty and vagueness of the law as observed in the several transmarine provinces subject to the Portuguese Crown, with regard to the rights of ownership which must be tolerated there, until such time as the proper measures can be adopted, to the end, that the principles of individual liberty and equality may receive the strict and liberal application which the Kings of these realms have, from time immemorial always pro-

PORTUGAL.

claimed, and which in the glorious reigns of the King Don José, and of the Queen Dona Maria I, of beloved memory, were ordered to be extended to the entire continent of the Kingdom of Portugal, and to the adjacent islands.

Agreeing to the proposal of the Transmarine Council contained in their report of 9th December, 1853, amplifying what is enacted by the Royal Letters Patent of 7th February, 1701, and what is now in practice in the Province of Cape Verd in some cases, and in that of Angola in others; and fixing once for all the true acceptation of the term and effect of enfranchisement, which the "Alvara" of 16th January, 1773, justly proscribed as barbarous and anti-Christian in the strict sense of the ancient Roman law, but which in the liberal and civilizing sense of the constitutional charter of the monarchy bears a different, very limited and humane acceptation. I am pleased, in the name of the King, and using the power conferred by Article XV, § 1, of the Additional Act, after hearing the Council of Ministers, to decree as follows:

TITLE 1.

Registration of Slaves.

ARTICLE I. All slaves existing in the Portuguese transmarine dominions at the time of the publication of this Decree, shall be registered within the term of thirty days, in the presence of the proper authorities of the township, district or garrison wherein they reside. This registration shall be made in the manner enacted in Article VII of the Regulations, dated 25th October, 1853, and for it the masters of slaves shall pay a fee of 500 reis for each slave.

II. Such slaves as may not have been presented and inscribed on the above-mentioned register, within the prescribed term, will be considered as enfranchised for all the effects of this Decree.

III. The book of registration will be sent to the Governor of the province, who will cause to be extracted therefrom lists of the registered slaves, declaring their names, sex and age; and which he will forward with the least possible delay through the proper department.

IV. Such slaves as may be imported into the said dominions by land, subsequent to the publication of the present Decree, shall be also registered in a separate book, in the manner enacted by Article I, and within the term of thirty days from their arrival.

§. Authentic lists of the slaves thus registered shall be sent every quarter to the Governor of the province, for the purposes mentioned in Article III.

V. No action may be brought on in Court upon questions of liberty, unless a certificate of registration is produced.

TITLE 2.

Ransom and Protection of Slaves.

VI. All slaves residing in territory belonging to the Crown of Portugal, have a right to claim their natural liberty, upon compensating their masters for the just price of their service.

§. From the date of the publication of the present decree, all slaves belonging to the State are free.

VII. All slaves imported by land into the dominions of Portugal, subsequent to the publication of this decree, are to be considered as liberated negroes, being bound, however, to serve their masters for the term of ten years, in accordance with the Regulations of 25th October, 1853.

§ 1. It is lawful to sell the services of these negroes for the whole or for a portion of the time during which they are bound to serve.

§ 2. The certificate of the registration required by Article IV, is a document essentially necessary for enforcing the service to which these negroes are liable

VIII. The liberated negroes mentioned in the preceding Article, have an equal right with that accorded by Article VI, to slaves; and all the other provisions of this decree are in like manner applicable to both classes of negroes.

IX. The State is the natural patron and guardian of all slaves, liberated negroes, and their children.

X. In each of the transmarine provinces the exercise of this guardianship will be confided to a board, to be established in the capital city, under the denomination of a Board for the protection of slaves and liberated negroes.

§ 1. The Bishop of the diocese will be President for life of the Board, and in his absence the ecclesiastic exercising the ordinary authority, under any title whatsoever.

§ 2. When the said ordinary authority is held collectively by the Chapter "*sede vacante*," the President of the Chapter will be President of the Board.

§ 3. The members of the Board are, the Law Officer of the Crown, the President of the Municipal Chamber, and the Provedore of the Orphan Asylum established in the capital of the province.

§ 4. Should the management of the Asylum be provisionally confided to a Committee, the place of the Provedore at the Board will be filled by the President of the Committee.

§ 5. In the Province of S. Thomé e Principe, and in others where only a delegate of the law officer of the Crown resides, this officer will be a member of the Board.

XI. The guardians of pauper prisoners, of slaves, and liberated negroes, appointed by Decree of 30th December, 1852, will be, in the Provinces of Angola and S. Thomé e Principe, subject to, and immediate agents of, the Board, and will receive from it their authority and instructions.

§ 1. The provisions of the said Decree are hereby extended to the other transmarine provinces, to the end that similar guardians may be appointed in all of them, to be in like manner subject to the authority and instructions of the several Boards.

§ 2. The public prosecutor's delegate, or sub-delegate, will by right hold the same office on the part of the Board.

§ 3. In places where no public officer of this kind resides, the Board may depute its authority and jurisdiction to the parish priest or missionary, or to any other person whom it may consider most fit.

§ 4. The person thus appointed will, in this capacity, be considered by all judges and authorities of every kind and grade, as invested with all the power and force which the laws confer upon these officers.

XII. The Board for the protection of slaves and liberated negroes has the charge, and the consequent right of protecting and acting for them in all matters, in Court as well as elsewhere; it exercises over them and their children paternal authority; it directs their affairs; protects their property; collects and administers all inheritances, bequests, legacies, gifts, alms, or any donations which may be made, either by deed or by will, to individuals or to the community, in favour of the charitable objects of the ransom of slaves, and the maintenance and education of slaves and liberated negroes.

XIII. The Board will have a special place of deposit for keeping all its revenues, and also for those belonging under any title whatsoever to its wards individually.

XIV. In the collection, management, and administration of the general property and income of slaves and liberated negroes, and of the particular effects of each one, the Board will follow the rules prescribed by law for the administration of the property of orphans.

XV. All property and incomes which, under any title whatsoever, belong or may hereafter belong to the general property of slaves and liberated negroes, will enjoy all the privileges which the law grants to property belonging to the Lisbon Orphan Asylum.

XVI. It is incumbent on the Board, with reference to the protection of slaves :

1st. To take care that the rights of ownership be exercised within the limits of religion, of humanity, and of the laws, by making use of persuasion and admonition, and having recourse to the authority of the judges and magistrates, if necessary.

2nd. To protect and take care of the lawfully-acquired effects of slaves, and to supervise their application causing them to serve principally for procuring the means of their ransom.

3rd. To institute and carry on in Court the claims for their liberty, as authorized by Article VI of this Decree.

4th. To institute and carry on in like manner claims in Court, when a freeman or liberated negro wishes to assert the liberty already acquired by him, or that which he has never lost.

XVII. The Board will draw up for this purpose a regulation adapted to the local and special circumstances of each province ; and which being approved by the Governor-General in Council, will be carried into immediate and provisional execution, until such time as it may be examined by my transmarine council, and definitively sanctioned by me.

XVIII. The Board is charged with the protection and general guardianship of the persons and property of liberated negroes ; it is incumbent on it to direct their education and instruction ; to administer to the wants of such as are poor and destitute, and in general to watch over all.

TITLE 3.

Acquisition of Liberty.

XIX. Such slaves as by themselves, or their own property, or through the charity or favour of others, obtain the means of acquiring their liberty, may have recourse to the Board of Protection, or to any of its agents or delegates, in order to cause the master to be called before the Court of Conciliation, for the purpose of coming to an agreement upon the amount of the ransom.

XX. The agent or delegate of the Board will proceed immediately to make the required summons.

XXI. From the time that the master of the slave is summoned to the Court, the agent or delegate may, if he think fit, request the judicial authority to cause the slave to be placed in the custody of a proper person.

XXII. Should the amount of the ransom be agreed upon in Court between the master of the slave and the agent or delegate of the Board, a deed shall be drawn up embodying this agreement, and also evidence of the delivery of the price ; and thus the manumission of the slave will be complete ; the receipt for the amount agreed to will be annexed to the deed.

§ 1. This deed after receiving the signatures of the judge or his substitute, of the master, of the agent or delegate of the Board, and of the scrivener, will constitute the certificate of emancipation of the slave.

§ 2. The costs of this process, if an agreement is effected, will be paid one half by the slave, and one half by the master ; if otherwise, the whole to be paid by the master.

XXIII. Should no agreement be arrived at, the agent or delegate of the Board will petition the judicial authority to cause the master to be summoned to appoint, and to be present at the appointment of, arbitrators on behalf of each party, in order to fix the amount of the ransom.

§ If on the expiration of twenty-four hours, the master of the slave has
CLASS B.

not named an arbitrator on his part, a certificate to that effect will be recorded on the process, and the arbitrator will be named by the judge.

XXIV. After these arbitrators have been appointed, the judge will name a third as referee, who must be a man of established honesty and justice, and well versed in the appraisement of slaves, and will notify to all three arbitrators a certain hour within the next twenty-four for proceeding to fix the amount of ransom, this act to be performed in open court, the proper judge presiding after having administered the oath to the arbitrators.

§ 1. In fixing this price, the arbitrators will have in view the age of the slaves, their state of health, knowledge, habits, service, profession or trade, and any other qualification which may increase or diminish their value; these circumstances alone and not any caprice or affection on the part of the master, will regulate the appraisement.

§ 2. Should the arbitrators on both sides agree as to the price of the liberty of the slave, the appraisement is concluded.

§ 3. Should they not agree, the referee will then be called upon to decide, and although he is not bound to agree with the amount proposed by either party, yet his appraisement must not exceed the highest amount, or be less than the lowest, and his appraisement will be taken as the proper compensation.

XXV. The judge will ratify by judicial decision, the agreement arrived at by the arbitrators; and upon delivery of the amount to the master of the slave the manumission shall be completed. A transcript of the judicial decision, together with the receipt of the price signed by the master, and countersigned by the judge and the scrivener will constitute the certificate of emancipation of the slave.

XXVI. This verbal and summary proceeding does not admit of delays, or any further term beyond that mentioned, and must be concluded without fail within eight days.

XXVII. These proceedings and this appraisement become unnecessary in the case of slaves, who, forming part of an inheritance, are therein described and valued. They may claim their liberty when through their own means or through the charity or favour of another, they are enabled to make good to the estate the amount of appraisement.

XXVIII. In cases of claims, such as are mentioned in section 4, of Article XVI, of this Decree, the agent or delegate of the Board will summon before the Court, those who detain as slaves any persons calling themselves freemen or liberated negroes; and will there by every lawful means seek to obtain the acknowledgment of the disputed liberty.

§ 1. Should no agreement be come to, the matter must be brought before the Court for contested questions, "Juizo Contencioso" where the form of summary process for cases of outrage will be observed as prescribed in Article CCLXXXI, of the "Novissima Reforma Judicial." The detainer is bound to prove that the person detained, is a slave as represented by him. Should he fail to do so, such person will be declared free.

§ 2. The provision of Article XXI of this decree is applicable in this case.

TITLE 4.

Guardianship of Liberated Negroes.

XXIX. All slaves who under any circumstances obtain their liberty, enter at once the class of liberated negroes, and become subject to the public guardianship of the Board.

§ Such slaves as obtain their liberty through the general provision of the law, as enacted in the clause of Article VI of this Decree, are bound to serve

the state for seven years, under the provisions of the regulation of 25th October, 1853.

XXX. The Board of Protection will adopt as its provisional rule, with regard to the liberated negroes of the state, as well as to all others in general, the system of registration and the other administrative provisions contained in the said regulation of 25th October, 1853.

XXXI. Any infant slave, on whose part the sum of 5,000 reis is delivered in the act of baptism, either to the Parish Priest, or to the officiating Minister, will become *ipso facto* as free as if he was freeborn. In the entry of the baptism the proper evidence will be recorded.

§ 1. The sum thus delivered to the parish Priest will be given up to the master.

§ 2. For the purposes of this Article infancy is extended to the age of five years.

§ 3. Should any sums be granted or bequeathed by known or unknown persons, to be appropriated to the ransom of infant slaves in the act of baptism, they will be collected and administered in the manner prescribed by Articles XIV and XV of this Decree.

XXXII. Infants who thus attain to the condition of freemen, will nevertheless, until their majority, remain under the guardianship of the Board of Protection as if they were liberated negroes.

XXXIII. Any liberated negro who may belong to any of the following classes, will cease to be under the public guardianship and will be considered as a freeman, and enjoy the full entire and absolute rights of a citizen.

1. Bachelors graduated at the University of Coimbra.
2. Graduates of any denomination of a foreign University or Academy.
3. Clergymen in Sacred Orders.
4. Members of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Lisbon.
5. Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of the Army and Navy.
6. Those who may have gone through a course of studies at the Lisbon or Oporto Polytechnic Schools, or the Naval, Military or Medical Schools of Lisbon or Oporto, the Mathematical and Military and Medical Schools of Goâ, the Medical School of Funchal, or at any other high schools which may hereafter be established.
7. The professors of the primary, secondary, and superior branches of learning.
8. Those who may have filled the office of alderman, or clerk to the Municipal Chamber, administrator of a district, or judge (*eleito, ordinario, or substituto*) of clerks to the courts or of notary public, or any other office of equal or superior rank.
9. Merchants carrying on a wholesale trade.
10. Book-keepers and head clerks of commercial houses.
11. Such as may have acquired any landed property.
12. The managers of farming and manufacturing establishments.

TITLE 5.

General and Penal Provisions.

XXXIV. All bequests are valid when the testator thereby leaves his inheritance or legacy to a third party under the promise of delivering it to the slave when liberated, either with or without the clause of employing the whole or part of the inheritance or legacy in the ransom of that slave.

XXXV. In the case contemplated in the preceding Article, the Board of Protection is empowered and bound to demand in court, through its agents and delegates, the execution and full compliance with such bequests.

XXXVI. Besides what is enacted in Articles XII, XIII, XIV, XV, and XXXIV, of this Decree, the endowment of the Board will comprise the following funds:—

1. A proportion to be regulated by the Board, of the proceeds of the labour of liberated negroes.

2. The proceeds of the penalties and fines imposed by this Decree.

3. Five per cent. upon the price of slaves sold, in whatever way such sale may be effected.

4. The proportions of the revenues of the municipalities and asylums voted by the General Boards, and in the absence of these, by the Governors-General in Council.

5. Whatever subsidiary amounts may be voted by the said General Boards or Governors-General in Council to meet the requirements of the Board of Protection.

6. In the Kingdom of Angola, and its dependencies, a per centage upon what is actually paid by the so-called carriers until such time as they are suppressed; the amount to be arbitrated the same way as above.

XXXVII. In sales of slaves by public auction, it will not be permitted to outbid an offer made for effecting the liberty of the slave, provided that such offer shall cover the amount of appraisement. A certificate of the deed of appraisement will constitute the certificate of emancipation of said slave.

XXXVIII. It is prohibited to alienate, under any circumstances whatsoever, a married slave separately from his wife, if also a slave; as also a slave mother from her children if slaves and under seven years of age.

XXXIX. The children of a female slave proved to have been born while she has been in a state of concubinage with her master, will be liberated without ransom.

XL. Any person who may knowingly detain as slaves, free or liberated negroes, will incur the penalties attached to the crime of private restraint, and will pay besides, to the coffers of the Board of Protection, the sum of 100,000 reis.

XLI. Any person selling as a slave, or otherwise trafficking with his own child, will incur the penalty of imprisonment enacted by Article CCCXXVIII, of the Penal Code, and besides this, pay to the Board of Protection, 200,000 reis, and such child shall become free.

XLII. The share belonging to the State of all penalties and fines levied, or to be levied, upon those who carry on the Slave Trade, or in any way abet it, as also of the securities unredeemed which are mentioned in Article XXIV of the decree of 10th December, 1836, will be ceded in favour of the funds of the Board.

XLIII. Contracts entered into for labour with African chiefs or others, may not exceed the term stipulated in Article X of the Regulation of 25th October, 1853, and will be specially liable to the supervision of the Boards of Protection, all other authorities being likewise bound to take care that these contracts may not become an abuse in contravention of the laws which prohibit the Traffic in Slaves.

XLIV. The Boards of Protection will send to the Government in the months of January and July, half-yearly and detailed reports of their labours.

XLV. The Governors, as the heads of all administration in their respective provinces, will furnish to the Government in the month of January of each year, an annual and circumstantial report of the manner in which this Decree has been put in practice.

XLVI. The Governors of the transmarine provinces will, as soon as they receive this Decree, cause it to be immediately published and put into execution, taking such provisional measures in Council as may be necessary for the prompt and due compliance therewith, which under no circumstance or pretext may be delayed.

XLVII. All legislative enactments to the contrary are hereby revoked.

The Viscount d'Athoguia, Peer of the Realm, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and for the Marine and Colonial Departments, shall thus understand and cause it to be carried out.

Palace, December 14, 1854.

KING REGENT.
VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

No. 356.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 16, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 11th of December, I transmit to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from the Acting British Consul at the Cape Verds, respecting the person belonging to the slaver lying at St. Antonio, who had obtained a passport for Portugal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 357.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 18, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 8th instant, inclosing a translation of the Portuguese Decree which was published on the 14th December last, containing regulations for the registration, redemption, and partial emancipation of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of Portugal; and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the observations and suggestions made by you in your conversation with Viscount d'Athoguia upon the subject of this Decree.

You will inform the Viscount d'Athoguia, that as far as the Decree goes, and as a step in the right direction, it is satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government; but you will again press upon his Excellency's consideration the importance of a strict and *bonâ fide* registration as the best check upon the deception so likely to be practised by the owners of slaves of filling up, by newly imported negroes, the vacancies occasioned by deaths or desertions.

I have sent a copy of the Decree of December 14, to Mr. Brand, the British Vice-Consul at Loanda, who is at present at home on leave of absence, and I have directed him to point out to me any amendments or additions which may occur to him as being desirable for the completion of this measure; and when I receive Mr. Brand's report, I may have to instruct you to address the Portuguese Minister further upon the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 372.

No. 358.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 27.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, January 19, 1855.

WITH my despatch of 27th November last, I had the honour to submit copies of two notes which I had addressed to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatches of the 26th September and 16th November, relative to infractions of the Treaty of 1842, committed by the local Government of Loanda in allowing slaves to be transported in excessive numbers from the continent to the Portuguese Islands, such slaves being moreover, in the majority of cases, field labourers, and not domestic servants, as required by the Treaty to legalize their removal.

I have now the honour to lay before your Lordship a translation of a note which I have received from the Viscount d'Athoguia purporting to be an answer to my above-mentioned notes and inclosing two Portarias—orders in the King's name—which are stated to have been issued with the view to correct the abuses complained of.

On looking into these orders your Lordship will find, that although they convey a severe reprimand to the colonial authorities for allowing slaves to be carried to the islands in excessive numbers, and desire that henceforth no more than one settler ("colono") accompanied by ten slaves and no more, shall be allowed to proceed in any vessel, whether a ship of war or a merchant-vessel passing from the continent to the islands, nothing whatever is said in them of the important condition required by the Treaty, that negroes so transported shall be *bonâ fide* domestic servants.

I have hastened to point out to the Viscount d'Athoguia, by a note of which I have the honour herewith to submit a copy, the imperfect nature of the orders which have thus been sent to the authorities of Angola, and to request in the name of Her Majesty's Government, that the defect may be remedied with the least possible delay.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 358.

Viscount d'Athoguia to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Translation.)

Palace, January 16, 1855.

IN answer to the notes which you were pleased to address to me on the 14th August, 5th October, and 24th November of last year, in which by the orders of your Government you claim that prompt measures may be taken for putting a stop to the abuses which were said to have been committed by the superior authorities of the Province of Angola, relative to the embarkation of slaves for the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince's, against the stipulations of the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, between Portugal and Great Britain, I have to acquaint you that the two Portarias of which I have the honour to forward copies to you, were issued by the Marine Department on the 27th December last, to the Acting Governor-General of the above-mentioned province.

By them you will perceive that His Majesty was pleased to disapprove of the conduct of the authorities who allowed such an embarkation to take place; and to command, that in future no vessel whether of war or merchant, may be allowed to convey more than one colonist, who will only be permitted to take with him as many as ten slaves.

By this last stipulation, which is not to be found expressly set forth in that Treaty, His Majesty's Government consider that they afford to Her Britannic Majesty's Government a fresh proof of their earnest desire to prevent as far as lies in their power the inhuman Traffic of Slaves.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 358.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 27, 1854.

HIS Majesty the King Regent in the name of the King, having read the confidential despatches dated 18th and 29th April last respectively, from the Provisional Government of the Province of Angola, giving an account of the permission granted for the embarkation of slaves belonging to the colonists who left Loanda for the Province of St. Thomas and Prince's, in the state vessels "Trindade" and "Esperança," and also of the correspondence which took place upon this subject between that Governorship and the Commissioner and Arbitrator of the Mixed Commission; the said august personage orders it to be declared through the Marine and Colonial Department to the Acting Governor-General of the said province, that he has been pleased, conforming with the report of the Transmarine Council of the 22nd September last, to disapprove the conduct of the Provisional Government on this subject, inasmuch as the practice which has been followed in Angola being to allow no more than 10 slaves to embark in one ship, the Provisional Government ought not to have altered this rule on their own responsibility, and without the authority of this Department, as they were not aware whether such an alteration would cause embarrassment to His Majesty's Government.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 358.

Portaria.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 27, 1854.

HIS Majesty the King Regent in the name of the King ordains, through the Marine and Colonial Department, that the Acting Governor-General of the Province of Angola shall not, until further orders from this Department, and in conformity with the practice followed in that province, allow any vessel, whether a merchant-vessel or a man-of-war, to take on board more than one colonist who will only be permitted to take with him as many as 10 slaves.

(Signed) VISCOUNT D'ATHOGUIA.

Inclosure 4 in No. 358.

Sir R. Pakenham to Viscount d'Athoquia.

Lisbon, January 19, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has had the honour to receive the note addressed to him by his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoquia, bearing date the 16th June, and inclosing copies of two Portarias lately issued for the purpose, as stated by his Excellency, of putting a stop to the abuses which have been for some time practised by the authorities of Loanda, in allowing slaves to be transported, in excessive numbers, by vessels of the Colonial Government from the continent to the Portuguese islands, such slaves being moreover in the majority of cases mere field labourers, and not household servants as especially required by the Treaty to justify their removal.

The Portarias lately issued go to remedy the first of these evils, but nothing whatever is said in them on the other equally important point; namely, that the slaves allowed to be removed shall be *bond fide* household servants. If his Excellency will have the goodness again to look over the notes which the Undersigned had the honour, by command of his Government, to address to his Excellency on the 14th of August, 5th of October, and 24th of November last, he will find that the remonstrances of Her Majesty's Government related in a great measure to the reprehensible practice of allowing passengers proceeding to the islands to take with them, under the character of household servants, slaves in no way coming under that description; and on reference to the Treaty of 3rd July, 1842, Article V, his Excellency will further perceive that there is nothing against which stronger precautions are provided in that compact, than the very irregularity to which the Undersigned has now the honour to direct his Excellency's attention.

The Undersigned therefore is justified in requesting, in the name of Her Majesty's Government, that his Excellency the Viscount d'Athoguia will be pleased to cause such further orders to be sent to the authorities of Angola in addition to those already issued, as shall remedy the defect now evident in those instructions, and render them complete and satisfactory according to the letter and spirit of the existing Treaty for the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

R. PAKENHAM.

No. 359.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 29, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 19th instant with its inclosures, on the subject of the infractions of the Treaty of July 3rd, 1842, committed by the authorities of Angola in permitting large quantities of slaves to be shipped at Loanda for conveyance to the Portuguese islands of St. Thomas and Prince's, and I have to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Viscount d'Athoguia on the 19th instant, pointing out the imperfect nature of the orders issued by the Portuguese Government in their Portaria of the 27th of December last, and requiring them not only to limit the number of slaves which colonists are allowed to take with them to the islands, but also to insist that none but domestic slaves shall accompany the colonists in those voyages.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 360.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 21.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 10, 1855.

I HAD the honour on the 5th of this month to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 18th January.

I have fulfilled the instructions contained in it, by communicating verbally to the Viscount d'Athoguia the wishes and expectations of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the precautions to be taken to insure a strict *bond fide* registration of slaves in the Portuguese colonial dominions.

A more formal communication on this subject may more properly be made when I am in possession of the instructions which your Lordship gives me to expect I shall receive when your Lordship has heard Mr. Consul Brand's opinion as to any amendments or additions which may appear advisable for the completion of the measure in question.

In the meantime, the Viscount d'Athoguia assures me that a code of instructions to the colonial authorities, for the better fulfilment of the late

Decree, is under the consideration of the Ultra-Marine Council, in which provision will be made for the errors and omissions in the Decree which I ventured to point out to the Viscount d'Athoguia's notice as likely to lead to fraud and abuse.

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

No. 361.

Sir R. Pakenham to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 21.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 10, 1855.

I HAVE the honour herewith to inclose a translation of a despatch lately received from Captain Rodovalho, commanding the brig "Serra do Pilar" on the west coast of Africa, reporting an important capture of negroes to the number of 194, intended for shipment, effected by him in the month of November last, at Point Equimina, in the Province of Benguella, and the arrest and imprisonment of the persons who were found engaged in that criminal enterprise.

This Captain Rodovalho is the officer whose praiseworthy resistance to certain irregular acts of the Provisional Government of Angola in permitting the transportation of slaves from the continent to the islands, I was directed, by your Lordship's despatch of 26th September last, to bring to the notice of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government. For this reason, as well as on account of the meritorious service performed by him, on the occasion to which this despatch more immediately relates, I am glad to hear from the Viscount d'Athoguia, that he has received the King Regent's commands to forward to Captain Rodovalho the Decoration of the Order of Christ.

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

Inclosure in No. 361.

Captain Rodovalho to the Minister for Marine and the Colonies.

(Translation.)

Sir,

I HAVE the satisfaction of acquainting your Excellency, that being at anchor in the port of Benguella on the 16th instant, I received on the same day a confidential letter from the Governor of that place, by which he requested of me the assistance of the brig under my command, to repair to a place called Equimina, where there was said to be a considerable number of slaves intended to be shipped for exportation; and he sent to me as a guide on this important service a black, speaking Portuguese, who having succeeded in making his escape, had come to Benguella, and brought him the information in question. Accordingly, in consequence of all these circumstances, and notwithstanding my being employed on a most important service, for which I had received His Majesty's most peremptory orders, I determined, nevertheless, to sail for the place indicated, for which purpose I weighed from Benguella on the 17th, and lay-to in Elephant's Bay on the evening of the 19th. At 11 P.M. on the same day, I shoved off with Second Lieutenants C. F. de Almeida Pereira e Souza, J. da Meuna Aparicio, and P. C. de Aguiar Craveiro Lopes, taking with me besides these three officers a body of forty men. I steered for the beach at Equimina, landed there, and at once proceeded to the factory of Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, where I arrived about 3 A.M. on the following day. I was informed by the black who accompanied me as guide on this expedition, that this factory was the place where the slaves were, of whom I was in search, and I at once observed, that they were in the gardens belonging to the house where the said Ignacio Teixeira Xavier lived; and as, because of the darkness of the night, I could not effect my design, I set a watch round the factory, and remained in perfect silence until the break of dawn. As soon as it was clear daylight, I

CLASS B.

caused the garden-gate to be opened, and on entering I discovered a considerable number of blacks of both sexes, the greater part of whom being loaded with fetters, began to clap their hands for joy, knowing that I was going to deliver them from the chains and captivity in which they were groaning. I next proceeded to arrest the owner of the factory; and on counting the slaves, I found by the lists that were handed to me, that 164 were employed in gathering urzella and farm labour, and that 50 men and 33 women, then in irons, 37 female children, 69 males, and 5 infants, were designed for embarkation,—as the servants themselves of the factory declared, and the Portuguese-speaking blacks corroborated them; the whole amounting to the number of 194 were taken. Taking into consideration, then, all these proofs, it is plain that the slaves in irons were there only for the purpose of being embarked for exportation, and that the principal agent in that iniquitous speculation is, beyond a doubt, the said Ignacio Teixeira Xavier, who has probably been also the agent in all the shipments which have recently been made to the southward of this district. Accordingly, I took into custody, and conveyed on board the brig under my command, not only the said Xavier, but also the 194 blacks intended for shipment, taking off their irons, which I keep in my possession. I did not proceed to the destruction of the factory, knowing that that establishment is intended also for farming purposes and lawful trade, for which purpose I left there all the slaves who were employed so usefully. Finally, it remains for me to report to your Excellency, that as I am not at liberty to delay the execution of the service required of me by His Majesty, by conveying the prisoners to Loanda, I have been obliged to put into Benguella, where I leave them under charge in the Castle of St. Philip; and on my return from the southern coast, I will receive them on board again, in order that they may be handed over to the proper Court at Loanda, and dealt with according to law.

(Signed) JOAO MAXIMO DA SILVA RODOVALHO,
Captain.

*Brig "Serra do Pilar," at anchor in the Port of Benguella,
 November 21, 1854.*

No. 362.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 26, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th instant,* inclosing a copy of a despatch from Captain Rodovalho, in command of the Portuguese brig "Serra do Pilar," on the west coast of Africa, reporting the capture, by him, of 194 negroes intended for shipment, and the arrest of the person concerned in the project; and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have learned with satisfaction the success of Captain Rodovalho's expedition, and that he has been rewarded by his Government for his praiseworthy exertions on this occasion.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 363.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Arbitrator in the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, announcing the departure from that

* No. 361.

† Class A, No. 82.

place of the Rev. Mr. Livingstone, to resume his travels in the interior of Africa, after having met with the most friendly treatment during his stay at Loanda.

No. 364.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, stating that Major Amaral, the President of the Provisional Government of Angola, has informed them that he is ready to cooperate with them in the most cordial and zealous manner towards the extinction of the Slave Trade; and I have to instruct you to express to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs the satisfaction which this assurance on the part of Major Amaral has afforded to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No 365.

The Earl of Clarendon to Sir R. Pakenham.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 6, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a memorandum which has been drawn up by Mr. Brand, the British Vice-Consul at Loanda, relative to the Decree which was published by the Portuguese Government on the 14th of December last, providing for the registration and partial emancipation of slaves in the colonial possessions of Portugal.

As the opinions expressed in this paper are founded upon a personal knowledge of the mode of conducting the system of slavery in an important colony of Portugal, and as the suggestions made by Mr. Brand appear to me to be capable of being practically and usefully applied in the preparation of the Code of Instructions which you state in your despatch of the 10th ultimo,† is now under the consideration of the Portuguese Colonial Board, I have to instruct you to communicate to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs a copy of the inclosed memorandum, and to state, to his Excellency that it will afford much satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government if the Colonial Council should find it practicable to embody in the new system for the emancipation of slaves, any of the provisions suggested by Mr. Brand, and more particularly those which are intended to improve the process of registration; to give the negroes the means of obtaining agricultural instruction, and of earning money to purchase their freedom; and generally to facilitate the transition of the slaves from their present condition to that of free men.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

Inclosure in No. 365.

Memorandum.

ON a general view of the Portuguese Decree of the 14th December, 1854, relative to the registration and redemption of slaves in the Colonial Possessions of the Crown of Portugal, I fully agree, as relates to many of its provisions, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon, that their tendency is beneficent and likely, if duly enforced, to improve the condition of the negroes.

* Class A, No. 81.

† No. 360.

1. Among the beneficent enactments, besides the advantages to be expected from registration, there stands prominently forth the important declaration of right of redemption contained in the VIth Article.

2. The establishment of a Board of Protection charged with important functions calculated to benefit the negro whilst in a state of slavery, in his transition from that state, and after attaining the condition of a "liberto," also deserves special notice, as I believe this Board is the first institution publicly recognized and acknowledged in the Portuguese colonies, holding forth the right of appeal to the slave population in general, and possessing a corresponding power to afford aid and protection.

3. I should also notice the declared validity of trusts for the benefit of the slave (Articles XXXIV and XXXV); the privileges conceded to the funds belonging to slaves and "libertos" (Article XV); the preference to be given in public sales of slaves to offers made for their redemption (Article XXXVII); the prohibition of the separation of husband and wife, and of mother and child (Article XXXVIII); and the penal enactments contained in Articles XL and XLI relative to the detention, as slaves, of free persons or "libertos," and to the sale of children by their parents.

It must be admitted that such enactments have a beneficent tendency; but, fearful as to their application and enforcement, I am obliged to add that I look upon them rather as embracing a public recognition and formal declaration of rights, than as containing a present and efficient remedy for existing evils. Such a recognition and declaration, however, must be held as important points gained.

But besides my fears respecting the enforcement of the best of these provisions, there are, I think, omissions and defects in the Decree itself which affect and materially impair its whole tendency. It will not escape notice, that some of its provisions which, taken by themselves, appear liberal, are modified by others subsequently introduced. Thus, for instance, the provision contained in Article VI§, respecting slaves the property of the State, is modified by Article XXIX§, and in like manner, the tendencies of Article IV and of Article XXXI are checked by the provisions of Articles VII and XXXII.

1. One prominent feature of the measure is this, that nothing whatever is done for the immediate and complete emancipation of any portion of the slave population. Not a single slave becomes a free man by the present operation of the Decree. Certain classes of negroes attain the middle state of "libertos;" but beyond this state not one of them can at present advance. Children under five years of age, redeemed at baptism are indeed declared to be fully free, and they would, therefore, seem to form an exception, as regards any who may be so redeemed immediately on the publication of the Decree, but even, in their case, they are free only in name, as they continue in the condition of "libertos" until they attain the legal age of majority (Article XXXII).

2. A second feature deserves notice, and it is this, that no provision is made for the complete emancipation of slaves in future, except by passing through the middle state of "libertos." Slaves the property of the State appear by Article XXX, to be in the condition of "libertos" during their seven years of servitude. Slaves not registered within the thirty days, prescribed by Article I, or imported by land after publication of the Decree. Children redeemed at baptism; illegitimate children of slave owners, Article XXXIX; and those slaves who may purchase their freedom, all pass into this middle state. There is no direct transition, either present or future, from a state of slavery, to one of complete freedom, for Article XXIX clearly states, that "every slave" who may have in any way obtained his liberty, passes immediately into the condition of a "liberto," &c.

3. I mention further, that among the provisions of the Decree but little of a practical tendency is to be found as to the mode of transition from the condition of a "liberto" to that of a freeman. The condition of "liberto" seems to be the measure and limit of the negro's freedom. Slaves the property of the State, and slaves imported by land after publication of the Decree are not declared to be free men after the expiry of their respective periods of service; they are "libertos" during these periods, and they appear to be in the same social status after their completion, for they are not included in any of the twelve classes of free men mentioned in Article XXX. I will subsequently have occasion to notice, that the attainments and qualifications requisite for being

comprehended in almost any one of these classes, are practically beyond the reach of the majority of negroes in the condition of "libertos." Again, as regards the Board of Protection, whilst its functions with respect to the redemption of slaves are set forth, and the form of process pretty fully detailed in chapter III, I do not find any enactment relative to the duties of the Board in aiding the "liberto" in his passage from that state to the condition of a free man.

These three features appear to me defects; and their tendency, I fear, is to retard the progress of the negro in advancing to the enjoyment of complete freedom.

The preamble of the Decree, in fact, speaks chiefly of two matters;—the removal of ambiguity in the law relative to the rights of owners of slaves, and the proper definition of the terms "liberto," and "condition of liberto." What the preamble says respecting complete freedom is very indefinite, and is expressed in the general terms,—“until the necessary measures shall be adopted in order that the principles of personal liberty and equality, may have their full and liberal application” (em quanto se não tomam as providencias convenientes, &c.).

From these general remarks I would desire to proceed to examine the measure more in detail, but in doing so I meet with several difficulties which prevent me from judging fully of its provisions.

1. The Governors of the Ultramarine Provinces are authorised by Article XLVI to adopt provisionally the necessary measures for the execution of the Decree; these measures, though materially affecting its practical working, cannot be judged of at present.

2. The same remark applies to the measures to be adopted by the Board of Protection, for its guidance with regard to the protection of slaves (Articles XVI and XVII).

3. Further, there are two documents regulating the execution of the Decree in some of its most important provisions, which I have not seen. These are the Decree of the 30th December, 1852, establishing Curatorships of slaves, "libertos," &c. (Article XI, § 1), and the regulations of the 25th October, 1853. The latter of these documents is mentioned six times in the body of the Decree; its VIIth Article regulates the whole system of registration proposed (see Articles I and IV), and its provisions in general are mentioned as regulating the service for twelve years imposed on negroes introduced by land, after publication of the Decree (Article VII), and the services of "libertos" of the State, during a period of seven years (Article XXIX, §), as guiding the Board of Protection provisionally in its proceedings and administration, as respects all "libertos" (Article XXX), and finally as limiting, in terms of its XIIth Article, the contracts for service entered into with African Chiefs (see Article XLIII).

For these reasons—the impossibility of judging of measures yet to be adopted, and my not possessing the documents above-mentioned—I am not in a position to pass judgment on some of the most important matters to which the Decree applies. Among these, are details of the system of registration to be adopted both as regards slaves and "libertos," the rules which are to guide the Board of Protection in watching over the interests of negroes whilst in a state of slavery, the principles of administration to be followed by that Board as respects "libertos," and the regulations affecting the services of those "libertos" who are obliged to serve their owners, whether private individuals or the State, for a period of years. What can be said by me as to the details of the measure in question must, therefore, be modified and limited by these considerations.

This Decree, having for its avowed object the amelioration of the condition of the negro, seems to contemplate present protection, and eventual but I fear only partial, emancipation. These ends to be attained—

I. By a system of registration.

II. By the establishment of a Protectorate.

Registration.

As regards registration, all, or nearly all, that is said on this subject, is contained in the first Chapter of the Decree, consisting of five short Articles. The substance of these Articles appears to be, that all slaves in the Portuguese

colonies, at the date of the publication of the Decree, have to be registered within thirty days before the respective authorities of the administrative districts, &c., within which they reside in the manner prescribed by the VIIth Article of the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, that slaves in these colonies, but not so registered, shall be considered "libertos;" that slaves introduced by land, after publication of the Decree, shall be registered in a separate book, but likewise in the manner prescribed by the VIIIth Article of the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853; that quarterly returns shall be sent from the districts to the Governor of the province, who shall make returns to the Secretary of State, setting forth the names, sexes, and ages of the slaves registered; and finally, that in all judicial proceedings respecting liberty, a certificate of registration shall form an essential part of the "Autos." With the addition of a passing reference in Article VII, § 2, and an Instruction to the Board of Protection, Article XXX, the above is really all that is said in the Decree on the subject of Registration. It would appear that the negroes referred to in Article IV are to be registered in a separate book; but it does not appear, whether the returns mentioned in the paragraph of that Article relate solely to them or not. Two registers appear to be prescribed, one for slaves and one for negroes subsequently introduced; but nothing is said as to the registration of the class referred to in Article II, whether with the former or the latter. The Board of Protection would seem, by Article XXX, to have something to do with the registration of libertos; but with respect to the officers to be employed, duties to be performed, and indeed as regards all details, the Decree is silent. These will, doubtless, be more or less fully set forth in the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, already referred to; but, as I have not seen these Regulations, all I can do is to endeavour to indicate some leading features which I think should characterize such a system of registration as that in question. With other necessary provisions it ought at least to comprehend—

1. A threefold classification of the negroes registered.
2. A system of triplicate registration.
3. Periodical returns of material changes of condition.
4. An annual visitation and inspection.

1. *Classified Registration.*

There are three classes of negroes in the Portuguese Colonial Possessions, with the exception of those that are insular, who, I think, ought to be registered separately:—

All negroes presented and proved to be slaves, and registered within the prescribed time; all negroes in the condition of "libertos," except those introduced after publication of the Decree, and all negroes introduced after publication of the Decree.

After the expiry of the prescribed time, all slaves resident in the colony at that time, but not registered, become "libertos;" the slave-population, properly so-called, will consequently be, from that time, limited to those so registered and their children. The expiry of the time prescribed for registration forms, in fact, an important epoch respecting domestic slavery in the Portuguese colonies; for the number of slaves then ascertained to exist ought to become fixed and permanent, except in so far as it may be affected by births, deaths, redemption, and the operation of the Vth Article of the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842. The beneficent objects contemplated by the Decree affecting the slaves, would, I think, be more easily attained by their being registered as a distinct class of the negro population.

The condition of the next class renders it most desirable that they should be dealt with, as regards registration and all other matters, by themselves; and that the line separating the liberto from the slave should be as broad and well defined as possible; and that, moreover, every measure should be taken to prevent the record and evidence of their actual condition from being in any way mixed up with the record relating to those in the condition from which they have escaped.

The last class of negroes, on account of their having to be introduced by land, can form no part of the negro population of the insular colonial possessions of Portugal. They are so introduced after publication of the Decree; and from this circumstance alone form a separate class. The condition of these

negroes, introduced as "libertos," but obliged to serve their owners for ten years, during which period they may be bought and sold, is peculiar and exceptional; and they require to be jealously watched over, lest, under the name of *libertos*, their condition should become worse than that of slaves. Their separate registration is, therefore, desirable, and indeed would seem to be provided for, in part, by the IVth Article of the Decree.

2. *Triplicate Registration.*

The triplicate registration which I would propose, and of which I need only suggest an outline, should be carried out by District Registrars, a Registrar-General in the capital of each colony, and by the Board of Protection. It appears to me, that this threefold registration carried out by different classes of officers, each acting as a check upon the others, would tend to render the execution of the measure more sure and complete. The negroes should in the first instance be presented and registered before the District Registrar, whose returns to the Registrar-General should be kept by that officer, after being entered in the general register, it should then be incumbent on the Registrar-General to transmit authentic copies of the returns received from the District-Registrars, to be entered in the register of the Board of Protection. Heavy penalties ought to attach to District-Registrars making incorrect or incomplete returns, and it should be in the power of the Board as well as the duty of the Registrar-General to send special officers at any time in cases of doubt, to inspect the district registers and take all necessary steps for ascertaining that they are correctly kept. The general register kept in the capital, and the register kept by the Board of Protection, should be at all times open to the inspection respectively of the members of the Board and the Registrar-General. Further, in every district, besides the District-Registrar, there ought to be a resident agent of the Board of Protection, who should be present at every act of the registration within the district, and report the same without delay to the Board. It would be among the duties of this officer, to see that no negroes are registered as slaves but those really in that condition, and that "*libertos*" are properly registered as such. The attention of this officer should be specially directed to the class of "*libertos*" mentioned in the IVth and VIIth Articles of the Decree. No slaves or "*libertos*" ought to be registered without being actually brought before the District-Registrar, who in the presence of the district agent of the Board of Protection should, after fully ascertaining the negroes' real condition, and real owner, employer, &c., cause the same with any other particular to be fully set forth in the register. The particulars enumerated in the IIInd Article of the Spanish Decree of 22nd March, 1854, seem to comprehend almost all, changing the term owner to that of employer, in the case of a "*liberto*," and adding a description of any distinguishing mark or marks on the body of the negro. As by the natural operation of the decree in fixing the number of the slave population, there will arise a strong temptation to evade it by registering as slaves, negroes who may not be in that condition, and also by registering the same negro more than once with the view of subsequently introducing fresh slaves to make up the number, the greatest care should be taken by the district officers to prevent such deceptions being practised. The marks on the body of each negro registered, ought to be fully described and care taken to detect any traces of such marks being subsequently altered. A special mark put on the body of each negro when registered, might tend to check attempts at this species of deception, as it would serve as a symbol of previous registration. This symbol ought to be changed from time to time. Penalties similar to those mentioned in the IVth, Vth, and VIth Articles of the Spanish Decree, should attach to district officers, owners of slaves or others practising or conniving at the practice of any fraudulent act tending to vitiate the district registers, such as altering the symbolic mark of registration on the body of a negro, &c. The issuing of register tickets or certificates of registration are mentioned in the XIIth, XIIIth, and XIVth Articles of the Spanish Decree, and might be introduced as an additional check. They should be issued annually in triplicate, one to be delivered to the slave, another to his owner, and the third deposited with the Board of Protection. Each certificate should give a summary description of the slave, mention the place and date of his registration, name and residence

of his owner, and have impressed on it a mark corresponding with the symbol of registration on the negro's body. These certificates ought to be of a size to allow the endorsement of any change taking place in the condition of the slave during the year subsequent to their being issued. "Libertos" generally should bear a symbolic mark on their bodies indicating both their condition and registration, and each should possess an authentic copy of his letter of freedom, in addition to a copy of the certificate of registration. The duplicate of this certificate should be delivered to their employers, or to their masters, in the case of apprentices. The libertos introduced under the IVth and VIIth Articles of the Decree ought to have a symbolic mark on their bodies different from that of other "libertos." On their introduction they should be immediately presented to the district agent of the Board of Protection, whose duty it would be to see them properly registered and located, and, independently of the returns to be made by the District-Registrar, to report all particulars to the Board. Neglect or fraud on the part of the person introducing the negroes should be punished by the loss of all right in the services of the negroes for the prescribed period.

3. *Periodical Returns.*

Periodical returns from each district of all material changes in the condition of the negro, should form a part of the system of registration. In these returns, there ought, at least, to be comprehended, births, deaths, marriages, changes of ownership, whether by sale, succession, or otherwise, changes of residence within, and of removals beyond, the district. These changes ought to be reported by owners, employers, &c., to the district officers, whose duty it should be to report the facts at the time, to the Registrar-General and Board of Protection respectively. These changes should further be duly registered, and an endorsement to that effect made on the certificates of all registered negroes, and it should be an instruction to all District-Registrars to send classified and detailed returns thereof at the end of each quarter to the Registrar-General, to be by him communicated to the Board of Protection. In case of deaths, the report ought to be made to the district officers in time sufficient to allow them to investigate the cause before interment. Some of the rules laid down in the XVIIth Article of Annex C to the Slave Trade Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, for the guidance of Curators in the case of deceased apprentices, might be adopted with advantage by the district officers. The penalty in the case of births might be the full emancipation of the children born, with an obligation on the owner to maintain them, or pay the charge of their maintenance for a certain number of years; in the case of marriages, the full emancipation of both parties, and in the case of deaths a pecuniary penalty. All sales of slaves, all transfers of rights of property in slaves, and contracts for slave labour not registered and endorsed on the certificate of registration should be declared invalid and the slaves declared free, and like consequences as affecting the slaves, should follow when removed beyond the district without previous notice given and endorsement of certificates. On arrival within the new district, registration and endorsement of certificates should follow, under like penalties. Most of these penalties might with certain modifications apply to the case of "libertos." Similar results as regards the liberty of the negro, should follow neglect or connivance on the part of the district officers, but in the case of neglect they should be obliged to make compensation for loss of services. Besides the penalties above mentioned, all parties concerned would be further amenable to the operation of the law for criminal acts or proceedings arising out of an abuse of authority or neglect of duty.

4. *Annual Visitation.*

Besides the occasional visits of special officers sent by the Registrar-General and Board of Protection mentioned under the second head, there ought to be an annual visitation and inspection of all registers and registered negroes. This should be made by at least two officers, one appointed by the Government, the other by the Board of Protection. It would be difficult to detail all the duties which in course of time it might be found advantageous to

intrust to these visiting officers, but it should be incumbent on them to inquire into all matters affecting the welfare and industrial progress of the registered negroes with a view to propose amendments to the Government and Board of Protection:—they might further be invested with a correctional jurisdiction in summarily disposing of complaints, and settling differences in trivial cases, and they should have full power and authority in graver matters, to hold investigations, cite parties, and take depositions with a view to ulterior proceedings. It should be among the duties of these officers—

To see that the local registers are correctly kept;

To visit and call before them all registered negroes with a view to instituting suitable inquiries as to their condition and industrial and educational progress;

To superintend the annual issue of fresh certificates of registration, and to see that the old ones, as well as those of negroes deceased, redeemed or fully emancipated, are duly cancelled.

Such, in outline, are some of the features which I think ought to characterise a system of registration adapted to the peculiar condition of the negro population in the Portuguese colonies.

There is however one other point which I would just notice as tending, I think, to render the measure more complete, and that is an equitable valuation of slaves at the time of their registration. Such a valuation would enable the Government to ascertain more fully the real amount of the alleged difficulty of a general emancipation,—the compensation to be awarded,—and it would further serve as the basis of subsequent calculations in cases of individual redemption by purchase.

Protectorate.

The establishment of a Board of Protection is, as already stated, a prominent feature of the measure and its constitution is given, in Articles IX, X and XI, Chapter II of the Decree. As the seat of the Board is in the capital of the Colony, and the official duties of its members require that they should reside there also, it becomes necessary, for the purposes contemplated, that there should be agents of the Board in each district, to be in correspondence with the District-Registrar, in the same manner as the Board itself would be in correspondence with the Registrar-General.

It is possible, that the Curatorships mentioned in the XIth Article, as established in one, and to be extended to all the Ultramarine Provinces, may comprehend duties similar to those of District Agents of the Board, but not having seen the Decree of the 30th December, 1852, I am unable to do more than allude to them. It appears by the XLIVth and XLVth Articles, that the Board is to make half-yearly reports of its labours to the Governor of the province, who is annually to report to the Government on the general execution of the Decree.

The labours of the Board seem to contemplate two classes, slaves and “libertos,” or negroes in that condition.

With regard to slaves, these labours relate to two objects, protection and redemption.

With respect to protection, certain general duties of the Board are prescribed in the XIIth Article, as affecting both slaves and “libertos,” whilst in the XVIth Article, other duties also of a general character, but specially relating slaves, are set forth. From these Articles, it appears in substance to be incumbent on the Board, as far as slaves are concerned, to exercise over them the rights of protection, tutelage, and paternal authority; to collect and administer all monies, whether acquired by themselves, bequeathed or bestowed in any way by others on their behalf, having in view chiefly their redemption; to see that the powers of owners be exercised within the limits of humanity and religion; and to institute and follow up such legal proceedings as may be requisite for securing to them their liberty.

These are general duties, but as to the details and the means by which they may be enforced I am unable to speak at present, as it will be seen by the XVIIth Article that the Board is authorized to draw up rules for the regulation of these matters, and adapted to the circumstances of the Province, which rules, after obtaining the approval of the Governor and Council of Govern-

ment of the colony, are to be put into execution provisionally. Before, however they can be adopted definitively, they require the approval of the Regent, after being examined by the Ultramarine Council at Lisbon.

Until these rules be definitively adopted, it is impossible to judge of the practical tendency of this part of the Decree.

Whatever other matters these rules may eventually embrace, they ought to make a practical provision for the following :

1. A restraint on the owners' power to inflict punishment.
2. A right to suitable food and clothing and medical aid.
3. A legal right to demand redress for all injuries affecting either their persons or the property they may have acquired.
4. A cessation of all Sunday labour.
5. A limitation of the hours of week-day labour.
6. The means of acquiring a moral, religious and industrial education.

I now come to the important question of redemption of slaves, or their transition from slavery to the condition of "libertos." There are six modes by which this redemption is secured by the provisions of the Decree, and these provisions consequently affect six classes of negroes.

1. Those not registered within thirty days after the publication of the Decree (Article II).
2. Those introduced by land after publication of the Decree (Articles IV and VII).
3. Those belonging to the state (Articles VI § and XXIX).
4. The illegitimate children of owners, &c. (Article XXXIX).
5. Children under five years of age redeemed at baptism (Articles XXXI and XXXII).
6. Those able to purchase their redemption (Article VI).

The first, second, third, and fourth classes become "libertos" by operation of the Decree alone, and the duties of the Board on this head, with regard to them would seem to be those of aiding them, when requisite, in obtaining a formal recognition and registration of their new condition. The fifth and sixth classes, however, are differently situated, and they obtain their condition not by mere operation of the Decree, but by purchase under its provisions, I call the payment of five mil reis purchase, and I call the class (fifth) on whose behalf that sum is paid "libertos," as they are considered to be in that condition till they attain the age of majority. The form of process by which the sixth class can obtain redemption through the intervention of the Board, is set forth in the XIXth, XXth, XXIst, XXIIInd, XXIIIrd, XXIVth, XXVth, XXVIth and XXVIIth Articles, Chapter III.

This form of process is sufficiently intelligible. The slave is, in the first instance, to apply to the agent or delegate of the Board of Protection, whose duty it is to call the owner of the slave before the "Judge of Conciliation," and if the matter can be arranged amicably then the proceedings terminate in the liberation of the negro. Should such, however, not be the case, the delegate has to apply to the superior judicial authority to take steps for naming three persons competent to settle the value of the slave, one to act for each party, and a third to act as arbitrator, if necessary. These persons being nominated and sworn, the first and second shall, before the Judge in public session, proceed to the valuation, keeping in view the condition and abilities of the slave as set forth in the XXIVth Article, § 1; and should they disagree, the third is to decide within the limits pointed out in Article XXIV, § 3. The superior Judge then completes the proceedings by confirming the decision of the valuers. In cases where slaves form part of an inheritance and are therein described and valued, such valuation is to be adopted without further proceedings as the price of Redemption, Article XXVII. The process above mentioned must always be concluded within eight days, and the slave may from its commencement (Article XXI) be placed in safe keeping and beyond the control of his owner. The letters of freedom to be delivered to the "liberto" are described in the XXIIInd, § 1, and XXVth Articles. The costs of process in cases of conciliation, are to be paid by the owner and the slave in equal parts, in other cases wholly by the former; so much for the form of process, but before it can be instituted the necessary funds must be obtained. The funds at the disposal of the Board of Protection appear to come from the following sources:—

1. Legacies, trusts, and charitable donations mentioned in the XIIth Article for the redemption of slaves, and the maintenance and education of slaves and "libertos."

2. Money legitimately acquired by the slaves themselves (Article XVI, Par. 2.)

3. Gifts or legacies for the redemption of slaves under five years of age, at baptism (Article XXXI, Section 3).

4. Trusts for the benefit of slaves after attaining the condition of "libertos," and which may be in whole or in part employed in their Redemption from slavery (Article XXXIV).

5. Under Article XXXVI, a part of the proceeds of the labour of "libertos," the proceeds of penalties and fines imposed by the Decree; 5 per cent. on the prices for which slaves are sold, that portion of the revenues of municipalities and hospitals which may be voted by the General Juntas, or by Governors-General in Council, subsidiary votes of the General Juntas, or Governors-General, and in the Kingdom of Angola a per-centage on what is paid for the services of negroes employed as carriers.

6. The portion belonging to the state of all penalties and fines imposed for breach of the laws respecting the Slave Trade, and also the amount of unredeemed bonds under the XXIVth Article of the Decree of the 10th December, 1836.

Article XLII. The funds arising out of the third source have a special application to the redemption of children at baptism, those accruing from the first, second, and fourth, may be applied in part to the redemption of the sixth class of negroes mentioned; but in the present state of feeling as regards the slave population in the Portuguese colonies, I do not think, that much can be expected from first and fourth.

As to the general funds at the disposal of the Board, I greatly fear they will be found insufficient to carry out the various objects contemplated; at least, it is impossible to say what amount, after providing for other necessities, can be appropriated to the redemption of negroes.

From these considerations, therefore, and under present circumstances, it is chiefly to the second source that I would look. The Decree speaks of money legitimately acquired by the slaves themselves; but in order to their acquiring such money it is necessary to give them facilities for doing so, and every effort should be made by the Board to encourage the slaves to work out, by industrial means, their own redemption. With this view I would propose, besides the limitation of labour on week days within reasonable bounds, that a certain portion of each week should be allowed the slaves for the purpose of devoting it to industrial pursuits; that the Board should endeavour to give them every facility in learning trades, and that the proceeds arising from these industrial pursuits during the portion of the week allowed them, should go to providing the funds for their redemption.

Further, that the Board, for the purpose of giving encouragement, should devote a portion of its funds to premiums to be awarded for good conduct in industrial vocations. The premiums should be given in the shape of sums of money to be applied in assisting the negro in procuring the means necessary for obtaining his liberation. In this way the slave would not only be encouraged to work out his own redemption but in doing so would acquire industrial habits fitting him for a state of liberty.

For the same purpose, I think that tracts of waste lands, at present of no value, should be placed by the Government at the disposal of the Board for the instruction and encouragement of other sets of slaves in agricultural industry during the portion of time allotted to them; the proceeds arising from the cultivation of the lands to be applied to their liberation. Premiums in this branch of industry should also be awarded by the Board, thus, for instance, the bringing into a proper state of cultivation a certain extent of land, might be rewarded by the Board providing a certain portion of the price of the slave's redemption. Besides the industrial habits acquired, tracts of land might thus be brought into cultivation which are now waste and useless. Further, the slaves, after attaining the condition of "libertos," might still continue to occupy the ground reclaimed by them for the benefit of the Board, and arrangements might follow, after a certain period of occupation, for it becoming their own property, and as "libertos" who have acquired any landed

property become, by the operation of the XXXIII Article, Paragraph 11, freemen in the full, entire, and absolute enjoyment of all the rights of citizenship, the negro, by this plan, would have open before him the path by which he could work his way from a state of slavery to one of perfect freedom. By this system of agricultural settlements and training, another class of negroes would be fitted, on liberation, for acting as administrators of estates, a position likewise entitling them, by Article XXXIII, Paragraph 12, to all the rights of freemen. Considering the state of feeling in the Portuguese colonies as regards slavery, I cannot expect that much will be given from sympathy or benevolence for the liberation of the negro; and fearing much that the general resources of the Board will go but a little way, it would, in the meantime, and until a liberal scheme of emancipation shall be offered, be chiefly to a well regulated plan for rendering the industrial progress of the negro the means of eventually bringing about his own redemption that I would look.

In the valuation of slaves with a view to redemption, the following matters seem to deserve notice:—

1. In the XXIVth Article, § 1, it is an instruction to the valuers to take into consideration the slave's state of health, knowledge, abilities, &c.; it appears to me, that lengthened period of service, during which these abilities have been subservient solely to the owner's benefit, should also be taken into consideration and operate in the favour of the slave.

2. In the valuation of slaves acquired by way of inheritance, it is prescribed by the XXVIIth Article, that the price of redemption shall be that for which they are valued in the inheritance. This rule should not be absolute, as such slaves might be put down in the inventories of such inheritances at exorbitant valuations, solely with the view of rendering their liberation more difficult.

3. In the liberation of married slaves care should be taken not to break up families, the husband and wife should, if possible, be liberated at the same time, and the liberation of the parents should carry with it that of all children under a certain age.

The second class of negroes whose benefit the functions of the Board of Protection contemplate, is that of "libertos," or those in the middle state between slaves and freemen. I have already mentioned the six classes of negroes who, by the operations of or under the provisions of the Decree may attain that condition. All these classes of "libertos" would appear by the XXXth Article to be equally under the control of the Board; but the manner in which this control is to be exercised is only expressed in general terms. Besides the provisions in the XIIth, XIIIth, and XIVth, and XVth Articles, applicable to "libertos" in common with slaves, the XVIIIth Article states, that on the Board devolves the protection of their persons and property, and that it has to direct their education, to provide for the necessities of the poor and helpless, and generally to watch over all.

As in the case of slaves I am unable to speak of details because these appear to depend on the regulations of the 25th of October, 1853, which the Board is directed, in the XXXth Article, to adopt provisionally for its government.

These regulations should tend, as much as possible, to attain three great objects with respect to "libertos"—

1. Security as to their liberty, their persons, and their property.
2. Provision for their educational and industrial progress.
3. Facilities for advancing to a state of complete freedom.

In connection with the first head, there should be every security against the "libertos" being either actually reduced again to a state of slavery, or placed in a condition in reality only different from it in name. As bearing on the former point, there are some provisions of the Decree calculated to afford the desired security, if duly enforced. These relate to free men or "libertos" detained as slaves. There is a penal enactment on this head in the XLth Article, in the 4th paragraph of the XVI Article it is declared to be one of the duties incumbent on the Board to institute and carry out the necessary judicial proceedings for the restitution of the liberty of such persons; and in the XXVIIIth Article these proceedings are mentioned. But besides what is there provided for, great regard should be paid to the acquired liberty of "libertos" generally, and specially as respects the two classes who are in the exceptional condition of

being "libertos" yet obliged to serve their own owners for a period of years namely, those belonging to the State, and those introduced after publication of the Decree.

The latter class deserves special notice; as they are to be introduced by land "importados por terra," they can form no part of the negro population of the insular colonial possessions of Portugal, such as the Islands of Cape Verd, St. Thomas, and Prince. The provisions of the Decree specially referring to them are, that they are to be registered in a separate book within thirty days; that they are to be considered in the condition of "libertos," but obliged to serve their owners for ten years, under the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853; that their services, for the whole or a part of this period, may be sold, and that the certificate of their registration is indispensable in order to claim from them the services in question. (Articles IV and VII.)

Ignorance of the Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, leaves me in the dark as to the conditions of their service; but what follows in the VIIIth Article claims attention. It is there stated, that they have the same right as is conceded to slaves by Article VI—right of redemption—and further, that all the provisions of the Decree which refer to slaves are applicable to them. There seems something conflicting, at first sight, in this right of redemption as regards these "libertos," for it cannot be supposed to apply to them after their period of service is completed, nor can it accrue to them during that period if the right of the owners is to be considered absolute. I suppose, therefore, it implies that the rule as to ten years' service is not absolute, and that part of this period may be redeemed. The right of sale appertaining to their owners, combined with the general declaration that all provisions of the Decree relating to slaves are applicable to them, seems to imply too much of an approximation in the conditions of the two classes.

It cannot be denied that it is most desirable to increase the industrious population of the Portuguese ultra-marine possessions; but I fear that in the present condition of these colonies, and of the Province of Angola especially, a species of Slave Trade might be carried on under the pretext of introducing the class of "libertos" in question.

Hitherto much of the trade carried on in the interior of the province, and a still greater part of that carried on by Portuguese merchants, or their agents, with the native tribes beyond the Portuguese territories, has involved large purchases of slaves, who, once brought into the province, readily pass from hand to hand, and there can be no doubt often were, and, it is to be feared, in many cases, yet are subsequently shipped to the Brazils.

The operation of the Decree in fixing the slave population will affect this branch of trade inasmuch as no more slaves can be introduced by land avowedly as such; but there can be no doubt that efforts will be made to evade the provisions of the Decree, and that there will be attempts to introduce, as libertos, the same class of negroes who were formerly brought in as slaves, and with the view of disposing of them, if possible, in a similar way. It therefore becomes necessary that there should be regulations to prevent, as far as possible, the right of introduction being used only or chiefly as subservient to the right of sale; in other words, the negroes should be introduced as industrial settlers, and not as mere articles of trade to be bought and sold at the will of those claiming a right to their services. The power of arbitrary sale ought to be checked, and the condition of the negroes introduced assimilated as much as possible to that of free colonists brought in under the obligation of serving under well-defined conditions for a certain period.

The term of ten years appears to me too long, and I think it might be substituted by a sliding scale of service, varying from three to seven years, according to the age or abilities of the negroes. In the introduction of the class of negroes in question, the following, among other conditions, might tend to check the abuses referred to.

1. That no negroes should be introduced without the previous sanction of the Board of Protection, after the person desirous of introducing them giving satisfactory evidence that they are to be employed in some legitimate branch of colonial industry.

2. That in their introduction there should be no separation of husband and wife, or parent and child under a certain age; that there should be, in all cases,

a certain proportion of females, and that every encouragement should be given to marriages and permanent settlements in the colony.

3. That there should be an obligation on the person introducing the negroes to teach them some trade, and to pay a certain amount of wages to those employed merely as domestic servants or field-labourers.

4. That the power of sale given in Article VII, § 1, should be so regulated as to render it not an absolute but a conditional right never to be exercised without the sanction of the Board of Protection, and only in such cases as the death of the master, his removal from the colony, or such alteration in his circumstances as might oblige him to reduce or break up his establishment.

In such cases it would be the duty of the Board to see that the negroes were suitably disposed of for the remaining portions of their respective terms of service.

These, or similar conditions, would, I think, not only ameliorate the social condition of the negro population in the Portuguese colonies, but also, as regards the Province of Angola, by their tendency to check the internal trade in negroes, influence materially the export Slave Traffic.

As regards the second head—provision for the educational and industrial progress of the libertos—I need say little. The Regulations of the 25th October, 1853, it is to be hoped, will be found to contain what is requisite for promoting their educational and industrial advancement; at all events, I presume it must be the duty of the Board of Protection to see that these important objects are attained. I need not refer to the importance of “libertos” being taught some useful business, trade, or mechanical art, whereby they may be subsequently able to maintain themselves; but I would again allude to the scheme of agricultural settlements, already mentioned, when speaking of the redemption of slaves.

I believe, that the libertos might, under the superintendence of the Board of Protection, be settled on waste lands with great advantage to themselves and the colony. In the territories included under the general Government of Angola, there are many facilities for carrying out such a scheme. These territories are supposed approximately to have a superficial extent of nearly 17,000 square leagues, whilst the population does not likely exceed 600,000. The country generally, except in the immediate vicinity of the coast, is described by all who have travelled through it as of great fertility, and the truth of this description is confirmed by that indefatigable missionary, Dr. Livingston, who, in his recent unrivalled journey in the interior of Southern Africa, came direct from Cassange in latitude 9° 37' south, longitude 17° 43' east of Greenwich, to St. Paul de Loanda. These fertile districts are at present waste and useless; and it appears to me, that an equitable scheme for the settlement of “libertos” as cultivators, and with the view of their ultimately becoming proprietors, would tend much to improve the internal condition and trade of the colony. A further advantage would result from this plan by encouraging a permanent race of settlers, who would likely fix their abode on the lands assigned to them, and these settlers, under proper care and encouragement, might establish and extend industrial habits, and obviate many of the evils which have arisen to the colony from the fluctuating and unsettled nature of its population.

I now come to the last head—namely, facilities for the “libertos” advancing to a complete state of freedom.

As regards this most important matter, I have already mentioned that I consider the provisions of the Decree, as far as I am able to judge of them, very defective. Their tendency in this respect seems to be, that of keeping the negro back, and making the condition of “liberto” the boundary beyond which he can scarcely pass. With the exception of children redeemed at baptism, there appears to be no way in which the “liberto” can attain the rights of complete freedom, except that of being in a position to be comprehended in some of the twelve classes enumerated in Article XXXIII. It is only necessary to glance at these twelve classes in order to see, that they make no practical provision for admitting the greater number of negroes in the condition of “libertos” to the benefits of free men. Some of these require educational attainments far beyond the reach of such negroes in general; whilst others, besides being from their nature limited to a comparatively small number, are, in the case of “libertos,” of very difficult attainment.

The first, second, third, and fourth classes—namely, graduates of the university of Coimbra, graduates of foreign universities, clergymen and members of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Lisbon—imply qualifications of an order so superior as to put their attainment beyond the reach of the African negro.

The fifth class—officers superior and inferior of the army and navy—must be considered as comprehending a comparatively limited number; and besides this, there is a decided unwillingness on the part of the Portuguese authorities to instruct negroes in the use of military arms.

The sixth and seventh classes again imply the possession of an education beyond the reach of the class of negroes in question.

The eighth class comprehends those who have served as members of municipal chambers, as administrators of concillos (sub-divisions of administrative districts) as popularly-elected judges, judicial clerks, or notaries—offices to which, I may safely say, negroes in the condition of “libertos” have no chance whatever of being raised either by election or appointment.

The ninth class comprehends wholesale merchants; retail dealers are not included, and it appears the liberto must struggle on till he becomes a wholesale dealer before he can attain the full rights of citizenship. This regulation seems to make the acquisition of these rights, in the case of “libertos” engaged in commerce, as difficult as possible.

The tenth class—book-keepers, and chief clerks of commercial houses hold out little hope to the “liberto,” these offices are responsible, comprehend but a comparatively small number of individuals, and are not of a kind which “libertos” are at all likely to be called upon to fill.

It is only in the eleventh and twelfth classes, namely, proprietors of landed property and managers of rural estates; that there is some hope held out to the “liberto;” and the possibility of his attaining the full rights of citizenship by either becoming the owner of land or being qualified to manage landed property, is one of the benefits of the scheme of agricultural settlements of negroes on waste lands to which I have already referred.

On a review of the twelve classes, it will be seen, that they contain nothing tending to advance the great majority of “libertos” onwards to the full enjoyment of freedom. No mention is made of such industrial classes as tradesmen, farmers, retail dealers, and others capable of maintaining themselves and their families by their own labour—egress from the condition of “libertos” seems to be rendered as impracticable as, in their case, it possibly can be, and there appears to be no outlet whatever for a free, industrious, and working population.

To remedy this defect, I venture only to make one suggestion, and it is this, that every “liberto” of age, and possessed of an income sufficient to maintain himself and his family, arising from property, trade, agriculture, industry, or office, should have a right to be admitted to the full privileges of citizenship.

This proposal refers to all “libertos” and of course includes those belonging to the State, and those introduced after publication of the decree. on their completing their respective periods of service, and possessing the necessary qualifications. In deciding the question of sufficient income, probably it would answer the purpose to take as the standard—the qualification prescribed in the LXVth Article, § 5, of the Portuguese constitutional charter for voters in the primary elections for deputies, that is to say, all “libertos” of age and able to prove themselves possessed of the income qualification entitling them to vote in the election of members of Electoral Colleges (which colleges subsequently elect the deputies), should also be entitled to all the rights of free men. Should such a regulation as that proposed be added to the provisions of the decree, I think that the outlet from the condition of “libertos” would be much widened, and that the qualifications for attaining the condition of free men would be practically brought within the reach of the greater number of this class of negroes. Encouragement would thus be given to industrial habits,—the true means of attaining, and the best qualification for enjoying, the benefits of complete freedom.

I have now endeavoured to analyse and review the Portuguese Decree of the 14th December last, as far as I have been able to do so in ignorance of the measures to be adopted for carrying it into execution, and without

having seen the documents which regulate some of its most important provisions. In consequence of not knowing the measures and nature of the documents referred to, I have been led in some cases to make suggestions, but when the nature of these measures and documents become known, it is possible that they will be found to contain regulations and provisions much better adapted for securing the important objects in question, than anything which I have ventured to propose.

As regards the general nature and tendency of the Decree, I reiterate the opinion which I expressed at the commencement of this paper.

*Stonehaven, North Britain,
February 24, 1855.*

G. BRAND.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Cape Verds.*

No. 366.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, May 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to report the arrival at this place of the United States' sloop of war "Marion," Captain Purvanes, after a cruise of six months upon the western coast of Africa, to await the arrival of the American Commodore, who is expected daily from the Canary Islands.

I regret in being obliged to report to your Lordship that Captain Purvanes and his officers report the continued prevalence of the Slave Trade by the means of changing the American flag to that of the Spanish, the slave cargo being intended for Cuba. It is gratifying, however, to learn from the same source, that in their cruise they found a total absence of vessels under the Brazilian flag.

The "Marion" left these islands in November last, and proceeded along the African coast, as far south as Benguella, between which and Cabinda they cruised for some time.

From Bissao and Cacheu, dependencies of this Government upon the African coast, several cargoes of slaves have been shipped for Cuba, and I learn, at the former Settlement a large clipper schooner is building under the superintendence of Spanish carpenters, which is intended for the Cuba contraband trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 367.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, May 10, 1854

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that it has just been communicated to me, that a rising of the slaves against their masters has been discovered at Porto Praia, St. Jago, through the means of a negro woman, one of their own people.

I very much regret to learn this sad affair, brought about, however, by bad treatment; because it entails such dreadful misery upon the parties implicated. In this case, I learn, recourse has been had to the lash, which has been inflicted with very great severity, by repeated daily floggings. No lives have been summarily taken, but the sufferings that have been inflicted must be immense.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 368.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to bring under your Lordship's knowledge the want of a register of the resident domestic slaves in these islands.

In the absence of such a document, it is competent for the authorities, at any time, to deny the fact of the importation of new slaves.

I beg, however, to assure your Lordship that my information is very positive; that the system of importing slaves in the number of 10, continues by almost every vessel coming from Bissao. As I have before reported, this system is persevered in, under an impression that it is justifiable by Portuguese Decree of 1836, although it is notorious that the slave population of Bissao changes every two years, and renders the existence of slaves at that place eligible to the law in question an impossibility.

I am led to understand that a large increase of slaves has taken place at the Island of Sal, for the purpose of working salt; and that at St. Jago and Fuego a large increase has also taken place; and it is said that at the latter island no difficulty is experienced in finding the description of slave wanted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 369.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 6.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, August 2, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Lordship that it has been reported to me that a sale of slaves by public auction, in the public square of Porto Praia, St. Jago, took place about the 5th ultimo.

Judging from the price they fetched (60 to 80 dollars each), they could not have been old domestic slaves, but newly imported ones. This is however difficult to prove, in the absence of a public register of slaves.

The public exhibition of such a disgusting scene is quite uncommon, even at Porto Praia, as during my residence in these islands of fifteen years, I do not remember to have heard of a similar scene having occurred.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. RENDALL.

No. 370.

Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 14.)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, September 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to make known to your Lordship that a vessel with 550 slaves on board appeared on and off for a couple of days, at Feijao de Argoa, in the Island of Brava, having been chased off the African coast, by a steamer and brig; when finding further delay very hazardous, as they learnt that the Governor-General resides in the town of the island near at hand, came to the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, and there remained for nine days, taking on board 100 pipes of water, with which she sailed for the Havana.

I subsequently learnt that a party landed from this ship, and had come over here and was waiting a passage to Lisbon. I therefore brought the matter under the review of the Military Commandant, who has detained the

individual in question until the pleasure of the Governor-General is known. A copy of my letter to the Commandant, with that officer's reply, I inclose.

This place of Terrafal de Monte Trigo is a favourite resort for slave-vessels: they can lay where they are not seen from seaward, and refreshments and water are procurable in abundance for a small consideration. The Portuguese have no fort or town nearer than two or three days' march across the mountains; consequently, no force can be sent against these piratical vagabonds under a period of eight days. As this district produces an abundance of provisions the Portuguese Government could with facility erect a fort in a commanding position of the bay, the name of which would be sufficient to frighten away this class of outlaws. I would, therefore, recommend to your Lordship the propriety of addressing His Most Faithful Majesty's Government on the subject.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 370.

Consul Rendall to the Military Commandant of St. Vincent.

Sir,

St. Vincent, September 23, 1854.

TAKING into consideration every circumstance connected with the following information, I feel it my duty to lose no time in communicating the same for your information.

That a vessel chased from the coast of Africa by a steamer and brig, called off Feijan de Argoa in the Island of Brava, where she remained on and off two days, and is supposed to have had communication with the shore in the interim, when not being able to get water, she came to Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, where she remained nine days and took in 100 pipes of water, having a cargo of 550 slaves on board, with which she sailed for Havana.

I further learn that an influential person of the said vessel is at present in this island, waiting a passage for Lisbon, having landed at Terrafal de Monte Trigo.

I also understand that this is the second time the captain has been at Terrafal de Monte Trigo this year.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 370.

The Military Commandant of St. Vincent to Consul Rendall.

Illustrious Sir,

St. Vincent, September 23, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Honour's official letter of this day's date, communicating to me the particulars of a vessel having been chased by a steamer and brig from the coast of Africa, and which had been at Feijan de Agoa, in the Island of Brava, and at Terrafal de Monte Trigo, in the Island of St. Antonio, where an influential individual landed from the said vessel, and who is at present in this island, waiting a passage for Lisbon.

In answer to this, I have to acquaint your Honour, that under date of the 20th of the present month, appeared before me, in the Municipal Chamber of this island, an individual from the Island of St. Antonio, without passport, declaring to be shipwrecked. As he is unknown in this island, and without any person to become security for him, I made this known to his Excellency the Governor-General of this province. But now, in the presence of your Honour's communi-

cation, which I have just received, I have taken all the measures in my power to prevent this individual, suspected as engaged in the Traffic of Slaves, leaving this island without the orders of his Excellency the Governor-General, to whom I have remitted a copy of your official letter.

God protect, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE PAUL MACHADO.

Major and Military Governor.

No. 371.

The Earl of Clarendon to Consul Rendall.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th ultimo, reporting that a slaver, with 550 slaves on board, had touched at the Bay of Terrafal de Monte Trigo, on her way to the Havana, and had remained there nine days taking in water.

I have in reply to express to you my approval of the note which you addressed to the Military Commandant of St. Vincent, on the 23rd ultimo, respecting this vessel; and I have to inform you that I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to your statement that Terrafal de Monte Trigo is a favourite resort of slavers, and to press upon them the adoption of your recommendation that a fort should be established on the bay.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 372.

Acting Consul Rendall to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 15, 1855.)

My Lord,

British Consulate, St. Vincent, December 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit for your Lordship's information, translation of a letter received from the Military Commandant of this island, with the late Mr. Consul Rendall's reply, in reference to the landing of a man from the vessel with slaves which was at St. Antonio, and who appeared here without a passport, as reported to your Lordship in the late Mr. Consul Rendall's despatch of the 28th September last.

I beg to state to your Lordship that the party in question succeeded in obtaining a passport from the authorities of this place, and left on the 21st October for Lisbon, in the Portuguese steamer "Doña Maria Segunda." I understand his name to be Diniz Maria de Castro.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. RENDALL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 372.

The Military Commandant at St. Vincent to Acting Consul Rendall.

(Translation.)

Sir,

St. Vincent, October 20, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor-General of this province received your despatch of the 22nd of last month, respecting a Portuguese individual who landed on the coast of St. Antonio, and arrived at this island on the 21st of the same month without a passport, suspected to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

His Excellency directs me to solicit from you the necessary proof of the fact, that it may be sent to the King's attorney of this island, to enable him to go into an inquiry and proceed against the suspected party.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE PAULO MACHADO.

Major and Military Commandant.

Inclosure 2 in No. 372.

Acting Consul Rendall to the Military Commandant of St. Vincent.

Sir,

St. Vincent, October 20, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, stating that you had received a letter from the Governor-General, directing you to obtain all the particulars from me in reference to the vessel with slaves which was at St. Antonio, and to the landing of a man at this island, who appeared here with a passport, waiting a passage by steam-boat to Lisbon, in order that the necessary instructions might be given to the King's Advocate to take legal steps therein.

In reply I beg to state that my information is derived from hearsay evidence, spoken, as I believe, by the person in question, and by other individuals, as the common news and talk of the day.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. RENDALL.

SARDINIA.

No. 373.

The Marquis d'Azeglio to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 15.)

5, Berkeley Square, le 14 Février, 1855.

LE Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Sa Majesté le Roi de Sardaigne, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de son Excellence M. le Comte de Clarendon, Principal Secrétaire d'Etat pour les Affaires Etrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique, les faits suivants.

Le 14 Avril, 1845, le sloop de guerre Anglais "Cygnet," Commandant Henry Layton, opéra la saisie du navire marchand Sarde "Sansone," qui se trouvait en vue de Quita (Golfe de Guinée, Afrique Occidentale), sous la prévention que ce bâtiment fût destiné à faire la Traite des Noirs.

Le Conseil d'Amirauté à Gènes, devant qui furent traduits, conformément aux Traités, l'équipage et les passagers du "Sansone," après avoir longuement et soigneusement instruit cette procédure, a déclaré par deux sentences successives, l'une du 12 Novembre, 1845, et l'autre du 31 Juillet, 1850, qu'il n'y avait pas lieu à poursuivre, que l'accusation loin d'être étayée de preuves suffisantes, manquait de tout fondement, et que les prévenus, l'armateur et le propriétaire du navire, avaient droit de réclamer du Commandant du "Cygnet" une juste indemnité pour les dommages soufferts, aux termes du Traité de 1834, stipulé avec l'Angleterre dans le but de réprimer le Trafic des Esclaves.

Les parties intéressées intentèrent alors le jugement de liquidation pour fixer les sommes à réclamer.

Malgré les efforts des plaидans pour solliciter de ces tribunaux la conclusion du procès, elle a été longuement différée, à ce qu'il paraît, à cause de la lenteur que leurs adversaires ont constamment opposée au progrès de la cause. Le prononcé du jugement est maintenant imminent. Mais comme les deux sentences sur le mérite de la question ont été favorables au propriétaire et à l'armateur du "Sansone," il n'y a plus aucun doute sur le résultat de ce jugement, dont le seul but est de délibérer sur le montant de l'indemnité.

En attendant cette décision, il a paru aux intéressés à Gènes de pouvoir proposer un moyen conciliant de mettre un terme à cette fâcheuse affaire et de se prévaloir d'un antécédent qui a eu lieu dernièrement. Voici en quoi il consiste.

Quelques jours après la capture du "Sansone," le même navire de guerre Anglais "Cygnet" opéra également la saisie d'un autre bâtiment marchand Sarde, le "Sommariva." La procédure relative à cette affaire marcha plus rapidement que celle du "Sansone," le cas étant moins compliqué. Pendant que le jugement de liquidation, toutefois, était en voie de prononciation, on s'entendit de part et d'autre pour arranger l'affaire à l'amiable. Le Gouvernement Britannique envoya un agent à Gènes qui, traitant directement avec l'agent du propriétaire du "Sommariva," parvint bientôt à conclure un arrangement définitif. Cette transaction, qui mit fin d'une manière satisfaisante pour toutes les parties intéressées à une controverse qui durait depuis des années, porte la date du 9 Mars, 1853.

Le cas actuel étant parfaitement analogue à celui du "Sommariva," les représentants du "Sansone" pensent que si le Gouvernement Britannique voulait charger un agent à Gènes de traiter directement avec eux on obtiendrait en toute probabilité le même heureux résultat.

Dans cet état de choses, M. Louis Nicolay et l'Avocat Joseph Prato, en qualité de représentants de tous les intérêts du "Sansone," viennent d'adresser

une pétition au Gouvernement du Roi, demandant qu'il veuille interposer ses bons offices auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique pour l'amener à l'acceptation d'un plan qui promettrait un résultat prompt et satisfaisant. Ces messieurs désireraient d'autant plus d'adopter ce moyen que le procès en question leur a déjà causé des dépenses très considérables, et la capture a coûté la vie à trois personnes, ainsi que la ruine de plusieurs. Or on épargnerait de la sorte, de part et d'autre, les frais ultérieurs d'une cause qui pourrait encore se prolonger pendant longtemps au préjudice de toutes les parties intéressées. Ce projet paraît donc être aussi de l'intérêt du Gouvernement Anglais.

M. le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères à Turin ayant attentivement examiné les titres qui accompagnaient la pétition, et s'étant amplement édifié du bon droit des réquerans, a été convaincu de la justice qu'il y aurait à intervenir en leur faveur.

Le Gouvernement du Roi a par conséquent chargé le Soussigné de recommander ce plan à la considération sérieuse et éclairée de son Excellence M. le Comte de Clarendon. Il ne doute pas que le Gouvernement Britannique, toujours animé des sentiments d'équité qui le distinguent, voudra se prêter à une transaction proposée par deux sujets du Roi qui se trouvent placés dans une bien fâcheuse position par le fait du Capitaine du "Cygnet." L'adoption de ce projet paraît d'autant plus acceptable que, le cas du "Sansone" étant tout-à-fait analogue à celui du "Sommariva," on peut en attendre le même résultat prompt et satisfaisant.

Le Soussigné, en venant exécuter les ordres de son Gouvernement, croit inutile d'insister ultérieurement auprès de son Excellence M. Comte de Clarendon pour l'adoption de ces propositions. L'esprit de justice et de conciliation que sa Seigneurie a témoigné en toute occasion au Soussigné lui donne la conviction qu'elle voudra bien accueillir favorablement des ouvertures dont le but est de mettre fin d'une manière conforme aux Traités et aux principes d'équité, aux longues et fâcheuses conséquences éprouvées par des sujets Sardes qui ont été complètement absous par les tribunaux compétents.

Le Soussigné, &c.

(Signé)

AZEGLIO.

No. 374.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Marquis d'Azeglio.

Foreign Office, February 19, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 14th instant by the Marquis d'Azeglio, &c., on the subject of the damages claimed from Her Majesty's Government by the parties interested in the Sardinian barque "Sansone," in consequence of the detention of that vessel by Her Majesty's ship "Cygnet," in April 1845, on a charge of being equipped for the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned has referred the Marquis Azeglio's note to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury; and as soon as he shall have received a reply from their Lordships, he will have the honour of communicating further with the Marquis d'Azeglio upon this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 375.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Hudson.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 15, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a note* which I have received from the Marquis d'Azeglio, referring to the case of the Sardinian vessel "Sansone," which was captured on the 14th of April, 1845, by Captain Layton of Her

* No. 373.

Majesty's ship "Cygnet" for having on board a Slave Trade equipment, and which vessel was released by a sentence of the Admiralty Court at Genoa, dated 12th of November, 1845.

M. d'Azeglio states that a sentence will shortly be pronounced in the action for damages brought against Captain Layton, by the master and owners of the "*Sansone*," and that he has been instructed by his Government to propose on behalf of the plaintiffs that Her Majesty's Government should come to a private arrangement with them as to the amount of damages to be paid in this suit.

You will find on reference to the despatches respecting the "*Sansone*," which Mr. Abercromby and Mr. Yeats Brown addressed to Lord Aberdeen, in November and December 1845, that the parties interested in this case are by no means borne out in representing, as it appears they have done, to the Sardinian Government, that the case of the "*Sansone*" is analogous to that of the "*Sommariva*," which was settled through your intervention in February 1853; for you will see that when these two vessels were brought to Genoa for adjudication, Mr. Brown reported to Her Majesty's Government that it was his full impression that the detention of the "*Sommariva*" was not justifiable, whereas it appears from his despatch of the 11th December, 1845, respecting the "*Sansone*," which is referred to in Mr. Abercromby's despatch of the 16th of the same month, that the nature of the cargo, the preparations made for conveying and victualling slaves, the superabundant number of boilers, and the concealed letters addressed to slave-dealers, all which were found on board the "*Sansone*," show clearly that that vessel was liable to condemnation.

These facts were no doubt known to the Sardinian Government at the time, for you will find on referring to Mr. Abercromby's despatch, of the 24th December, 1845, that when Count Solar de la Marguerite, then Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs, received from the War Office at Turin, for transmission to Her Majesty's Government, the citation issued to Captain Layton by the owners and masters of the "*Sansone*," Count Solar informed Mr. Abercromby that he had returned that document to the War Office, and that he had at the same time declined all official interference in support of the action for damages against Captain Layton.

It is probable that this proper and honourable decision on the part of the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs may not have been formally recorded by his Excellency at the time, and that thus the plaintiffs may have succeeded in persuading the Count de Cavour that their claim was a just one, and was as well founded as that of the owners of the "*Sommariva*." And I have therefore to instruct you to communicate to Count Cavour the above circumstances, and to give him a copy of Mr. Abercromby's despatch, of the 24th December, 1845.

You will state to his Excellency that the communication made to Mr. Abercromby by Count Solar de la Marguerite, induced Her Majesty's Government to stop the further legal defence of the law-suit in question, and that if they should be now obliged to resume it after the expiration of more than nine years, they will be unfairly placed in a disadvantageous position.

You will inform Count Cavour that there is no foundation for the statement of the plaintiffs contained in M. d'Azeglio's note, as to the conclusion of the suit having been delayed in consequence of the impediments which their adversaries have constantly thrown in their way; and you will say that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that his Excellency will follow the example of his predecessor, and that he will refuse to afford any further official support to the parties in question.

But as Her Majesty's Government are determined to resort to every proper means of resisting this claim, I have to instruct you to obtain and transmit to this office a copy of the order of the Vice-Admiralty Court at Genoa, dated the 31st of July, 1850, which is referred to by M. d'Azeglio, and which has not yet been communicated to Her Majesty's Government, and you will endeavour to procure such other documents as may be necessary for the information of the Lords of the Treasury, and particularly any evidence proving that the "*Sansone*" had on board an unreasonable number of water-casks or other vessels for holding water, as you are aware that the VIIth Article of the Supplementary Convention of the 22nd of March, 1833, to which Sardinia

acceded, stipulates that "no compensation shall in any case be granted either to the master or to the owner, or to any other person interested in the equipment or lading of a merchant-vessel in which any of the particulars specified in the preceding Article shall be found, even if the tribunals should not pronounce any condemnation in consequence of her detention."

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 376.

The Earl of Clarendon to the Marquis d'Azeglio.

Foreign Office, March 20, 1855.

The Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform the Marquis d'Azeglio, &c., with reference to his note of the 14th ultimo, respecting the claim made by the parties interested in the Sardinian barque "*Sansone*" which was captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Cygnet*" in 1845, that the previous correspondence which passed between Her Majesty's Government and Her Majesty's Legation at Turin respecting this vessel having been examined, it appears thereby that the plaintiffs in this case are not borne out in the statement which they have made as to the circumstances under which the "*Sansone*" was captured, being entirely analogous to those connected with the case of the Sardinian vessel "*Sommariva*."

And the Undersigned begs leave to acquaint the Marquis d'Azeglio that he has instructed Mr. Hudson, Her Majesty's Minister at Turin, to address a representation upon this subject to the Sardinian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

SPAIN.

No. 377.

Señor Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, April 3, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Chargé d'Affaires of Her Catholic Majesty, has the honour to inform his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., that according to a communication which he has received from the Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, dated the 6th of March last, the capture of 600 Bozal negroes was effected on the 4th of that month at the landing-place of Las Prujas, at the mouth of the River Manati, in the jurisdiction of Trinidad.

The Undersigned has also the honour to inclose a translation of a communication addressed to the Marquis de la Pezuela by the Political and Military Lieutenant-Governor of Sagua la Grande, with reference to the complaint made by the British Consul in Cuba, of a landing of negroes in the jurisdiction of Trinidad; in corroboration of which, he alleged the fact that the hull of one of the slavers might be seen at Cayo Verde, which he supposed had effected the landing in Sagua la Grande. Your Excellency will see by that, that the complaint in question, like various others made recently by Mr. Crawford, was without foundation; the hull turning out to be, from the inquiries made with as much zeal as activity by the persons employed under the authorities, that of a vessel laden with salt for New Orleans, which was wrecked on the reefs of Cayo Verde on the 7th day of January last.

These facts, to which the Undersigned takes the liberty of calling the attention of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, will prove to Her Britannic Majesty's Government that the Government of Her Majesty, maintaining its firm determination to cause international compacts to be scrupulously fulfilled, leaves no means unemployed to effect that object; and the Undersigned flatters himself that Her Britannic Majesty's Government will see a satisfactory proof of such determination in the well-directed and energetic steps taken by the Captain-General the Marquis de la Pezuela for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JUAN S. COMYN.

Inclosure in No. 377.

The Governor of Sagua la Grande to the Marquis de la Pezuela.(Translation.)
Sir,*Political and Military Government of Sagua la Grande,
February 9, 1854.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's letter of the 6th instant, in which, in consequence of the Consul of England having given information to you of the landing of Bozal negroes within this jurisdiction, one case of such landing having been effected, as it is said, by a brig of 270 to 300 tons, whose hull may be seen at Cayo Verde, as stated, you direct me to proceed to draw up an official statement of the same, expressing surprise that it has not been already done. I forthwith proceeded to act accordingly, and as I had not absolutely the most remote idea of the facts denounced, nor even any vague suspicion

that such had occurred, I found no data upon which an inquiry could be instituted. On the contrary, circumstances on which I can rely, known to me as a sub-delegate of the Treasury, convince me that the hull of a brig recently wrecked in Cayo Verde was not employed in the Slave Trade, but had been laden with salt intended for New Orleans, as proved by copies Nos. 1 and 2, which I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency. According to further intelligence in my possession, the said brig was the American "*Rio*," of 179 $\frac{2}{5}$ tons burden, measurement of that country, and was manned by Captain Charles Johnson, first mate, Henry N. Wat Quins; second mate, John Morris; and seamen, Thomas Ellen, Samuel G. Bradbury, Henry Hunter, John A. Hill, and Joseph H. Clareby. She took in her cargo at Islas Turcas, whence she sailed at 2 o'clock p.m., on the 3rd of January, and ran a-ground on the reefs of Cayo Verde on the 7th, the other occurrences mentioned in the accompanying document subsequently taking place. Hereby your Excellency will see that the information is unfounded as to that vessel having been engaged in the Slave Trade. The crew above named, after having remained several days at this point, went on to that city to embark, on account of the American Consul, and as they may not yet have left, it appears to me right to make this known to your Excellency that you may, if you think proper throw a light upon this statement by the help of their depositions, or by any other information which they may supply; because if the case really was as suspected by Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, the aforesaid crew is guilty, and if not, they may perhaps have seen the vessel referred to in his information approach the point.

The vague manner in which the denunciation is made, the circumstance that I had not received the slightest notice until then of such matter within my jurisdiction, notwithstanding my zeal in such cases, and the urgent instructions I have issued to my subalterns, that I had not remarked anything in certain persons who appear always inclined to be engaged in this Trade, and some other circumstances, almost convince me that there are no grounds for concluding that these things are true. But as the cunning of the smuggler surpasses the best arrangements of authority, it is possible that they may have deceived my vigilance. It would therefore be highly important that if any details be given in the above-mentioned denunciation which may facilitate the inquiry, they may be communicated to me, so that I may have a safer starting-point than that which I now possess, from which I cannot hope for any result, because there is not an inhabitant, however poor and mean he may be, who does not in this case identify himself with the greedy trader, to hide the crime, and elude the severity of the law. This is what I have at present to communicate to your Excellency.

God preserve, &c.

Documents referred to in the preceding communication.

No. 1.—Fiscal Administration of the Royal Revenues of the Port of Sagua la Grande.

IN reference to the order of the Intendant of the army, which you inclose to me, for compliance therewith, in your communication of the 27th January last, I have to inform you that so soon as this administration received notice from the marine authority of the wreck, in Cayo Verde, of the American brig "*Rio*," Captain Johnson, it gave orders to the local head of the coast-guard to dispatch to that point without a moment's delay the revenue-boat, with a trustworthy carabinier, especially directed to ascertain and give an exact account of what should be disembarked, in accordance with the royal orders of the 20th August, 1804, and of the 16th April, 1816, and to take the steps which he might think requisite for the security of the revenue. But while the Royal department awaited the fulfilment of the orders, and was using every precaution to prevent all malversation, it was tranquillised by ascertaining the fact, that the cargo which was composed entirely of salt, was completely lost. The naval stores which could be saved from the wreck being brought to the harbour, were deposited there with the knowledge of the aforesaid Department, leaving to the captain the option of re-embarking or selling the

same, in accordance with one of the sovereign orders above-mentioned. By this, I conceive that I have fulfilled and satisfied the orders of superior authority, returning the documents which you have transmitted to me.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

BRAULIO PANCORBO MARTINEZ,
Sub-delegate of the Royal Treasury.

Sagua la Grande, February 8, 1854.

No. 2.—*Documents containing a copy of the journal of operations effected by the Carabinier D. Juan de Castro on the leeward coast, on board of the revenue-boat of this harbour, under the orders of the Chief of the same.*

January 9, 1854.

ON the morning of this day, after making the inspection and seeing gangs which are on the point, and hearing that nothing had occurred, we sailed in the direction of Cayo Verde, and on reaching the reef of the said Cayo Verde we saw a vessel wrecked, and there was at the anchorage a sort of hut, which we thought might be the crew of the said vessel, as in fact, it turned out to be the case. I then went to the chambers of Don Manuel Sanchez, the marine magistrate, and on asking him what ship that was, with some other questions, he told me she was an American vessel whose name he did not recollect, but that on the morning of the 7th, and at about 7 o'clock an American captain had presented himself to him, telling him that he had been wrecked upon the reef, and that he wished him to go on board to get the people and stores and provisions on shore, and at the same time he requested of him a permit that he might carry to Sagua, and present himself to the Consul and proper authorities, all of which, he told me, he forthwith did. I asked him if he had saved anything out of the cargo, or if he knew that any other person had so done; to which he replied, that he was aware that nothing had been saved, the whole cargo consisting of salt, and the body of the vessel breaking, whereby the water entered on all sides.

January 10, 1854.

I went in company with the marine magistrate of the aforesaid Cayo Verde, to the position of the lost brig; we found the mate on board, and asked him what was the vessel's name; he replied that she was an American, named "*Rio*," that she had been laden with salt from the Turk Islands, and was bound for New Orleans, but that missing her course in the early morning of the 7th, she was wrecked where we then were. I asked him for what reason he remained on board, to which he replied that the captain left him to guard the rigging and sails, which was all that remained. We forthwith returned to the anchorage which we had quitted that morning, where we anchored with the intention of preventing any boat from approaching the wrecked vessel. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the launch "*Angelita*," Ferrer, master, came from Sagua la Grande to that point, having on board a marine guard and the carabinier, Don Bernard Alberu, who had an order from the *Aventajaso*, commandant of Sagua la Grande, directing me to take charge of the vessel, which was wrecked on those reefs, and this I did. At 9 o'clock at night the mounted carabinier, Don José de Casé, arrived at Cayo Verde, accompanied by Don José Sagol, who had come from Sierra Morena in a boat belonging to the latter, to this point. I asked them, if they brought any orders or directions; to which they replied, that they had not; which appeared to be the case from their going away the following morning.

(Signed)

JUAN DE CASTRO.

Sagua la Grande, January 14, 1854.

No. 378.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 3, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of last January,* I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, and for communication to the Spanish Government, a copy of a despatch † from Mr. Crawford, &c., inclosing copies of the defence which was set up on behalf of the three British sailors who were on board the slave vessel "*Jasper*," and of the sentence of the Court by which they have been set at liberty.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 379.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 4, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, a copy of a despatch † which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting, that the Captain-General of that island had superseded the Governors of Trinidad and of Sancti Spiritus, on account of their having connived at the landing of slaves in the districts of their respective Governments, and that his Excellency had appointed to succeed them, officers in whom Mr. Crawford considers reliance can be placed.

I transmit also a copy of a further despatch § from Mr. Crawford, in which he states that since the appointment of the new Governor of Trinidad, 600 newly imported negroes had been captured within his jurisdiction.

And I have to instruct your Lordship to express to the Spanish Government the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned these proceedings of the Marquis de la Pezuela for the purpose of putting down the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 380.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1854.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th of last January, || and to previous correspondence respecting the thirty-six 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, copies of a further despatch, ¶ and of its inclosure, from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting that twenty-seven of these Indians have been already sent back to their native country, that three have engaged to serve in Cuba as free labourers, that five have died, and that one has embarked for Spain as a servant.

It also appears from Mr. Crawford's despatch that the proceedings against the guilty parties in the affair are still being carried on in the Cuban tribunals.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 491.
 † No. 454. ‡ See Class B, presented 1854, No. 657. § Ibid., No. 660.
 || Ibid., No. 487. ¶ Ibid., No. 685.

I also transmit a copy of a note * which Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico has received from the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, by which it appears that the Spanish Government has made no such proposal to the Mexican Government respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba, as that referred to in M. Calderon de la Barca's letter to Mr. Otway of the 23rd of November, 1853.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 381.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 6, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 24th of last December, † inclosing a copy and translation of the note in which Señor Calderon de la Barca endeavoured to throw discredit on the statements which Mr. Crawford, &c., had made to me of landings of slaves which had been effected at the Ensenada de Cortez, the Ensenada del Carmelo, and at San Juan de los Remedios; I have to state to your Lordship, that on the receipt of that despatch I called upon Mr. Crawford to report further upon these cases, and I now transmit copies of a despatch ‡ and of its inclosures which I have received from Mr. Crawford in reply.

Your Lordship will communicate to the Spanish Government the contents of Mr. Crawford's despatch, as a proof of the systematic manner in which the Slave Trade was connived at under the late Captain-General of Cuba, and as showing the necessity of upholding and supporting the present Governor the Marquis de la Pezuela.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 382.

The Earl of Clarendon to M. de Comyn.

Foreign Office, April 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which M. Comyn, &c. addressed to him on the 3rd instant, informing him that on the 6th ultimo the Cuban authorities succeeded in capturing 600 Bozal negroes, who had been landed within the district of Trinidad; and inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, by the Political and Military Governor of Sagua la Grande, in which, with reference to the wreck of a vessel which is alluded to by Mr. Crawford, &c., in a letter which he addressed on the 12th of last January to the Marquis de la Pezuela, Señor Casariego states that the wreck of that vessel is not the wreck of a slaver, but of a vessel engaged in legitimate traffic, which lately foundered at Cayo Verde.

The Undersigned, in thanking M. Comyn for his communication respecting the capture of the 600 Bozal negroes, begs leave to inform him that he had already heard of this capture from Mr. Crawford, who, the Undersigned can assure M. Comyn, does full justice to the zeal and activity of the present Captain-General of Cuba, and to the determination of his Excellency faithfully to execute the stipulations of the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty between Great Britain and Spain.

But with regard to M. Comyn's representation that Mr. Crawford is in the habit of making unfounded statements to the Captain-General of Cuba as to the landing of African slaves, which charge appears to have reference to the fact that the wreck mentioned by Mr. Crawford in his letter to the Captain-General of the 12th of January, turns out upon investigation to be the wreck of an American vessel laden with salt for New Orleans, the Undersigned begs leave

* Inclosure 2 in No. 252.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 484.

‡ No. 452.

to inclose to M. Comyn a copy of Mr. Crawford's letter respecting the wrecked vessel in question, in order that M. Comyn may see that Mr. Crawford made no denouncement with respect to that wreck, but merely spoke of the wreck as being "supposed" to have been one of two vessels which had lately landed cargoes of slaves at Sagua, and that in the same letter Mr. Crawford spoke of the identity of the wreck with one of those vessels, as being a "conjecture."

The Undersigned, so far from thinking that this case affords evidence that Mr. Crawford is in the habit of making unfounded denouncements to the Captain-General of Cuba, is of opinion that the very guarded manner in which Mr. Crawford alludes to this wreck, with respect to which he had no certain nor positive information, may be taken as proof that he is not in the habit of denouncing disembarkations of slaves to the Cuban authorities until he has satisfied himself that he has good and sufficient grounds for making those statements.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 383.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 20, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of a note which I have received from M. de Comyn, &c., and of the answer* which I have returned to it, respecting the recent capture made by the Cuban authorities of 600 Bozal negroes, and respecting a charge brought by M. de Comyn against Mr. Crawford, that he is in the habit of making unfounded statements to the Captain-General of Cuba as to the landing of African slaves.

I also inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch† which I have addressed to Mr. Crawford on transmitting to him copies of my correspondence with M. de Comyn.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 384.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 21.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, April 13, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship by this messenger translation of a most important document relating to slavery in the Island of Cuba, which was published in the "Gazette" of this morning.

The chief points are the following:—

A determination, publicly expressed, to put down the Slave Trade, and to keep faith with Great Britain.

An endeavour to force the whole slave population of the island into works of agriculture, establishing high taxes on those retained for household purposes.

The organization of a system of colonization for Spaniards, Yucatanese, and Chinese, defining their obligations and rights.

And, finally, the compulsory registering of all the slaves in the island at this moment, so that any negro (excepting those subsequently born) who is hereafter unregistered, and who does not carry on him a copy of the register, will be considered as unduly introduced, and declared *ipso facto* free.

Your Lordship will see at once two things: the great advantage of such a

* Nos. 377 and 382.

† No. 456.

measure if properly carried out, and the great difficulty to which it will give rise at the moment of registering with regard to negroes who will be claimed as legal property, and who yet have been fraudulently introduced since the conclusion of Treaties with Spain.

Inclosure in No. 384.

Exposition to Her Majesty.

(Translation.)

Señora,

ONE of the most urgent necessities which at present presses upon the Island of Cuba is the scarcity of labourers; agriculture is already affected by it; its effects begin to be noticed in commercial transactions; and if it be not opportunely remedied, the rich treasures which that fertile island contains will soon be diminished, if not exhausted. The Government have carefully studied the causes of the evil, and in order to remove them they offer to your Majesty a system of measures which they consider efficacious, if, as is to be expected, there be on the part of the local authorities zeal and perseverance in carrying them into execution.

It is not hidden from the high penetration of your Majesty, that the origin of the scarcity which is deplored, lies partly in the existence and necessity of slavery, and partly in the Treaties in force for the suppression of the Slave Trade. The Antilles seem condemned by Providence not to give proofs of their fertility unless with the aid of that institution, and at the cost of the race upon whom it weighs. There results hence for the island of Cuba a social and economical situation, which although exceptional and anomalous, it is necessary to maintain with all its inconveniences, because there would arise from the design of regulating it by the type of European nations greater detriments for the State, and even for the very race disinherited of civil liberty.

From the necessity of maintaining slavery in those regions was naturally inferred the advantage of permitting in certain cases the introduction of new slaves; but as the international Treaties and the Spanish laws prohibit and punish it with rigour, this efficient means of preservation has been wanting to slavery, while the development and encouragement of agriculture have rendered it every day more necessary. Whatever may be nevertheless the qualification which these Treaties merit, the Government ought to fulfil them as the honour and dignity of the nation require, considering that though they be in part the cause of the injury which is lamented at this moment, it is not in the power of the Government to remove it, nor would it be morally possible to abolish slavery.

Leaving out of view therefore, as irremediable, these two primary and fundamental causes of the actual scarcity, the Government have maturely examined the immediate causes and believe they have found them:

1. In the practice of dedicating to domestic service and other occupations, in which the labour of whites and free men might be employed, the slaves which are wanting to agriculture and the employments, in which the labour of natives and Europeans cannot compete with that of the Africans.

2. In the proprietors not having taken care, so much as they ought to have done, of the reproduction of the slave race, with the hope that the clandestine introduction of Bozal negroes would supply their neglect.

3. In the scarcity of white labourers and artizans capable of dedicating themselves to a multitude of mechanical offices, for which the negroes are unnecessary.

4. In the right of property over the legitimate slaves not possessing the indispensable guarantees and securities, in consequence of the questions which the understanding and application of the Treaties in force for the suppression of the Slave Trade are daily raising with a powerful nation.

The slaves who now exist in the Island of Cuba would suffice for all the wants of agriculture, notwithstanding the losses which they have experienced by recent diseases, if a considerable number of them had not been destined in towns to services which free labourers could perform as well or better. This circumstance makes evident the advantage of removing the slave population from

the cities and towns, and dedicating it in the country to the occupations of agriculture. In order to effect this, your Majesty decreed, in 1844, the imposition of a capitation tax upon the slaves destined for domestic service; but this measure has not produced the desired effect; first, because all the slaves who dedicate themselves to occupations in which free men might be employed being excluded from the tax, its influence is limited to a very reduced number of persons, and precisely to those who, from the nature of their occupations, it must be most difficult to attract towards agriculture; and secondly, because the capitation not exceeding a dollar, or a little more for each person, it has not been a sufficient stimulus for the Cubans to abandon the inveterate custom of having themselves served by slaves.

In order to attain the desired end, therefore, it will be necessary to extend the tax to all the slaves who are not habitually employed in agriculture; that is, to those who have not their permanent residence in the estates or rural establishments, and to increase the said tax gradually in proportion to the wealth of each proprietor, adopting, as the measure thereof, the number of slaves whom he has in his service, and fixing, nevertheless, a prudent limit to the proportional increase, in order not to confound the caprices of luxury with the true wants of industry.

Your Majesty may still offer another more efficacious stimulant to the proprietors of slaves. There is now paid on the sale of them a duty of alcabala, which consists of 6 per cent. of the stipulated price. Exempt from this duty the slaves who are sold or transferred for service in the agricultural estates or establishments, and exact double from those who, having their residences in the said establishments, may be transferred for service in the towns, and no industry will obtain with more abundance and advantage than agriculture the labour necessary for its preservation and encouragement. If these measures shall not suffice to attract the slave population towards the fields, it would be difficult to adopt other indirect means which should promise better results. But even though agriculture and industry should go on increasing and developing themselves in the Island of Cuba in the same proportion as hitherto, the Government believe, nevertheless, that the slaves now existing would suffice for all the services in which they cannot be readily replaced by free labourers, if their reproduction shall be cared for and favoured.

The measures which your Majesty may adopt with such an object are also indirect, and of no immediate result, but will doubtless succeed. They consist in encouraging the proprietors to promote marriages among the slaves, and so to benefit themselves by the reproduction of this indispensable race. In order to effect this, the entire produce of the capitation tax before mentioned ought to be destined to the adjudication of three annual premiums: one in favour of the proprietor whose slaves may have had the greatest number of legitimate or legitimated children; another in favour of him who possesses the greatest number of female slaves in proportion to the men; and another for him who may take most care, and with the best result, of the health and preservation of his slaves. Female slaves should also be exempted from the capitation tax, as well their children under 12 years of age, and married slaves who have a certain number of children.

It would also be proper to exempt from all alcabala the compulsory sales of slaves which take place on account of marriages, and also the sales of the sons of slaves when they are removed for the first time from the control of the owner in whose possession they were born.

With such encouragements, and the conviction that in future there will be no more clandestine introductions of Bozal negroes, since the fabulous interest which maintains them will at least be diminished, not only will the farmers and manufacturers take greater care of the reproduction of their slaves, but capital will be devoted especially to that object, as happens in other countries where the slave population increases daily without the aliment of the fraudulent importation of Africans.

But in spite of what has been previously said, the Government are not ignorant that the scarcity of free labourers and artisans, or rather the want of a numerous class from whence they may be drawn, must have contributed in great measure to all mechanic services being performed by slaves. Thus it is, that in order to facilitate the effect of the measures which have for object to promote within the towns the replacement of slave labourers by free ones, and in order

CLASS B.

to remedy immediately, as far as possible, the actual scarcity of labour, it is indispensable to authorize the immigration of white colonists, Spanish or foreign, with whose assistance the free and labouring class which is wanting may be formed in Cuba.

The experiments made up to this time show that this remedy will be efficacious; but in order to provide for its due development, it is indispensable to determine the conditions on which the introduction of colonists is to be permitted, and to fix the relations between them and their masters with regard to the public interest and the powers of the Government.

The Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, zealous for your Majesty's service, and believing the want of labour to be most urgent, published an ordinance authorizing for two years the free importation of colonists from Spain, China, or Yucatan, and making regulations for that purpose, as also for determining the reciprocal rights of the colonists and of their masters. But the Government, considering the importance and gravity of the subject, have judged it indispensable, in revising those dispositions, to submit them in the form of a Decree to your Majesty's sanction. Its principal objects are: to facilitate the introduction of colonists in order that competition may increase the supply, and thus lower the price of labour; to prevent the colonists from being imposed upon by avaricious speculators; to empower the Government to impose special conditions with the same object on the importers, according to the nationality, number, and circumstances of the colonists to be introduced in each expedition; to give facilities within the limits of the law for fixing the particular conditions of the contracts with the colonists, in order that these contracts may be so drawn up as not to give rise, by ambiguity or obscurity, to questions of difficult solution; to establish a protectorate confided to the political authority which may decide, *ex æquo et bono*, all the questions that may be raised between the colonists and the masters, and may be susceptible of this proceeding; to determine the most essential civil rights of the colonists and of their families, so that these rights may be respected in the contracts; to empower the colonists and their masters to rescind those contracts at fixed periods, either on account of marriage or by previous compensation, in order that the condition of the colonists may not degenerate into slavery in some cases, or may not be worse in others than that of the slaves themselves; to enact measures protective of the health and life of the colonists, in order to prevent the avarice of any master from putting the one or the other in danger; to grant a disciplinary jurisdiction to the same masters for the correction of such slight offences as may not be cognizable by the tribunals. In all these dispositions, nevertheless, the Government have carefully abstained from opposing the smallest obstacle to the free agreements of individuals; and if they have fixed between the colonists and their masters some reciprocal obligations and rights independent of the contracts, these have not gone beyond what concerns morality, religion, or the State.

In order, finally, to ensure all the rights acquired by the owners of slaves, and to put a stop to the illegitimate hopes which have so much contributed to the diminution of the slave race, it is indispensable to put an end, by efficacious measures, to the eternal question of the Slave Trade. The Government are resolved to cause the solemn Treaties which they stipulated with England to be fulfilled, but they will not propose to your Majesty any measure which may relax in the slightest the severity of discipline which is the guarantee and forced consequence of slavery. Although the fear of measures of this kind being adopted in contravention of the Penal Law of 1845, which prohibits investigations to be made within the estates in order to ascertain the origin of the slaves existing in them, may have the good effect of keeping back many from the illicit commerce of Bozal negroes, nevertheless it has the evil effect of creating among the legitimate proprietors a feeling of insecurity and disquietude. In order to prevent at once such fears and dangers, it is requisite to stop the complaints and demands of the Government of Great Britain, which, in the use of the right given to it by Treaties, watches strictly over their fulfilment, and this will not be attained without radically extinguishing the Slave Trade.

The means which the Government propose to your Majesty for effecting this, have, in their opinion, all the advantages that can be desired, since their efficacy being unquestionable, and their execution most easy, they censure and guarantee all the existing rights relative to slavery. By opening in each capital

or lieutenancy of Government a register, where all the slaves who now exist in the island may be inscribed and filiated; by closing definitively this register for any new inscription as soon as the necessary time has arrived, in order that no proprietor may fail voluntarily to inscribe his slaves; and by considering manumitted and free all men of colour who in future do not appear inscribed and filiated, making, at the same time, exceptions in favour of infants and of fugitive and absent slaves during the time for the inscription, and of those whose condition is disputed before the tribunals, there will not be in future more slaves than those now in the island and their descendants; there will be an exterior, visible, and unquestionable mark to distinguish them from the free men; and if some Bozal negroes should still be clandestinely introduced, it would be impossible to make use of them as slaves without exposure to the serious risk of losing them the first time they might be met with without having the proof of their inscription in the civil register. This danger will necessarily remove the temptation of profit, which has hitherto maintained that illicit Traffic in spite of persecution.

The negroes fraudulently introduced are worth now as much as legitimate slaves, for as soon as they are disembarked and divided amongst the estates, neither the one nor the other can be the object of legal search, because it is always easy to frustrate any investigation respecting them. But when the register is once established and closed, the tenure of the real slaves will be as secure, as will be ephemeral and uncertain that which it is sought to exercise over those which are not so. This will at least produce a very considerable difference between the value of the respective classes; and the consequence of all this will be, that the slave-traders, not finding the risk they run sufficiently compensated by the profit they obtain, will abandon for ever so unworthy a Traffic.

The obligation which is imposed on the owners, of causing to be noted in the register all the acts and contracts which affect the condition of the slaves, or the rights which are exercised over them, will also contribute, in a great degree, to secure the property over them, and to prevent the frauds which are committed in the transactions concerning them. When the fulfilment of this obligation shall be secured by a declaration that the acts and contracts which are not so registered shall have no effect in regard to third parties, who may not have intervened in the same, no one will be able to alienate the slaves of another, or to sell as free from all lien, the partially-redeemed slaves (*coartados*), or to commit any other fraud of the same kind.

But the inscriptions and annotations made in the registers being of such consequence, it is indispensable to secure, by all possible means, the responsibility of the functionaries who are to have the charge of them, and the exactness, clearness, and legitimacy of the statements. With this object, some rules of organization and procedure are submitted to your Majesty, which will require to be completed by such regulations as the first authority of the island may adopt.

These, Madam, are the fundamental principles of the three projects of Decrees which the President of your Council of Ministers has the honour of submitting to your Royal approbation. If your Majesty deigns to approve them, this will bestow upon your people of the Antilles some improvements and reforms of great importance for their preservation, prosperity, and encouragement.

Madam, at the Royal Feet of your Majesty,

(Signed)

THE COUNT OF SAN LUIS.

Madrid, March 22, 1854.

ROYAL DECREES.

Having considered the Report of my President of the Council of Ministers, and in accordance with the opinion of the same Council, I hereby decree the following:

ART. I. All the slaves resident in the Island of Cuba who have not their permanent domicile in the agricultural estates or establishments shall, with certain exceptions, pay a capitation tax.

II. The owners of slaves subject to capitation shall pay annually, instead of the tax established by the Royal Order of the 29th of July, 1844, the following: for the first slave 2 dollars; for the second, 3 dollars; for the third, 4 dollars; and so on for each additional slave, 1 dollar more. The holder of 15 slaves, after paying the amount corresponding to that number, according to the preceding paragraph, shall pay 8 dollars only for each slave that he may have beyond 15.

III. No capitation tax shall be exacted for female slaves, nor for their children under 12 years of age.

IV. Married slaves, while they live with their wives, and have living children by them, shall only pay 2 dollars annually, whatever be the number of slaves that the owner may have, and shall not be included in the assessment for the other slaves belonging to the same owner. If the number of the children amounts to 4 above 12 years of age, the slave their father shall be exempt from all capitation, even though he may be a widower.

V. The capitation tax shall be exacted from the proprietors in quarterly payments, and a quarter of a year in advance, the first quarter to be payable at the expiration of the first term when the similar tax suppressed by the present Decree was to become due.

VI. The produce of this tax shall be paid at once into my Royal Treasury, and shall be invested in three equal premiums, which shall be adjudicated annually: one to the proprietor of more than 50 slaves, who may have had proportionally during the year the greatest number of legitimate or legitimized children; a second to the proprietor who, possessing a greater number of slaves than the other competitors, may have had proportionally fewer losses by death during the same period; and a third to the proprietor who, possessing also a greater number of male slaves than the other competitors, may present in equal proportion a greater number of female slaves belonging to him.

VII. These premiums shall be adjudicated on the 19th November of each year, by a Junta presided over by the Governor Captain-General, and which shall be composed of the Regent of the Audiencia, of the President of the Tribunal of Commerce of Havana, of two proprietors elected by the Corporation of the same capital, and of two merchants selected by the said Tribunal of Commerce from persons not belonging thereto.

VIII. The Captain-General of the island, making use of the powers which belong to him as Civil Governor and Superintendent of Finance in Commission, shall make subject to my Royal approbation, the proper arrangements for the collection, assessment, and punctual levying of this tax.

IX. The Junta de Fomento shall transmit to the Political Secretary all the information and documents which it may have, relating to the suppressed capitation, and shall deliver over to my Royal Treasury the produce of the same which may not have been paid over on the publication of the present Decree in the Island of Cuba.

X. No alcabala shall be paid for the slaves who, after the said publication, may be sold or transferred, in order to serve or reside in agricultural estates or establishments, the proprietor who may acquire them with that object always making it known at the office charged with the collection of that tax.

XI. The Captain-General of the island shall make the proper arrangements for recording the permanent residence of the slaves transferred under the exemption from alcabala to agricultural estates and establishments, in order that the said slaves may never change their domicile to towns without the owners first paying the said duty.

XII. Double alcabala shall be paid for slaves who, having their residence in agricultural estates or establishments, may be transferred to serve or reside in the towns.

XIII. Any proprietor committing fraud for the purpose of eluding the payment of alcabala, in cases in which he is not exempt from it according to this Decree, shall pay double, without prejudice to the penal or civil responsibility which he may incur by the same act.

XIV. Only half the alcabala shall be exacted for the transfer of slaves under 14 years of age.

XV. No alcabala shall be exacted—

1. For sales of slaves which may take place on account of marriages under Article XXX of the Regulations of the year 1842, provided the marriage shall be proved.

2. For the legitimate and legitimized children of slaves who may be born after the publication of this Decree in the island, when they leave for the first time the ownership under which they were born.

Given at the Palace, March 22, 1854.

Signed by the Royal hand.

The President of the Council of Ministers,
(Signed) LUIS JOSE SARTORIUS.

Having considered the Report of the President of my Council of Ministers, and, in accordance with the opinion of the same Council, I hereby approve the following Regulations for the importation and management of colonists in the Island of Cuba.

CHAPTER I.

Of the Importation of Colonists.

ART. I. Private persons, who wish to introduce on their account into the Island of Cuba, Spanish, Chinese, or Yucatan colonists, shall be able to do so from this day, and for the space of two years, subjecting themselves to the conditions established in these Regulations.

II. The importer of the said colonists must previously obtain permission from the Government, and must, for that purpose, present a certificate or document, showing that the vessel in which they are to be conveyed is fit for the voyage. If the vessel should be in a foreign port, this certificate or document shall be issued by the Spanish Consul there, and if in a Spanish port by the proper naval authority.

III. Neither of the said permissions shall be conceded unless the person in whose favour it is issued obliges himself to import the number of women which the Government may determine, on taking into consideration the number of the men who are to be imported in each expedition, their nationality, and other circumstances. No tonnage duties shall be paid by the importers for women.

IV. The Government, on conceding the permission of which the previous Articles treat, may exact from the importers any other conditions which it may think fit with regard to the number, nationality, and other circumstances of the colonists who are to be imported.

V. The contracts between the importers and the colonists shall be written in the language of the latter, and shall be *viséd* by Her Majesty's Consul if made abroad, or by the Governor of the province if made in Spanish territory.

VI. These contracts must set forth the following particulars:

1. The age, sex, and place of birth of the colonist.
2. The time for which his contract is to be in force.
3. The wages, and the kind, quantity, and quality of the food and clothing which he is to receive.
4. The obligation to afford him medical assistance during illness.
5. Whether the wages are to be stopped when the colonist falls ill from any cause not connected with his work, or independent of the will of the master.
6. The number of hours during which the colonist obliges himself to work each day, it being declared whether the master is to have the power of increasing that number on some days, provided this increase shall be compensated by a proportionate diminution on other days.
7. The obligation of the colonist to indemnify the master for the hours of labour lost to him by the colonist's fault.

8. The obligation of the same colonist to subject himself to the discipline of the estate, workshop, or establishment in which he may have to labour.

9. A clause drawn up in these terms: "I, N. N., assent to the rate of wages above stipulated, although I know that what the free labourers and slaves

of the Island of Cuba get is much greater, because I consider this difference to be compensated by the other advantages which my Master has to afford to me, as stated in this contract."

10. The signature of the colonist, if he can write, and that of the contractor.

VII. The colonist shall receive, and keep in his possession, a copy of the contract signed by the contractor.

VIII. If the colonists should be Spaniards and under age, they shall not be permitted to contract with the importers without the consent of their parents or guardians. If they should be foreigners and under fourteen years of age, the person on whom they depend must be a party to the contract.

IX. The importers of colonists shall not embark in any vessel more than one person for each ton of measurement on a voyage from the ports of the Peninsula; one person for each ton and a half on voyages made from the ports of China; and in the like proportion for the shorter voyage from Yucatan.

X. The importers shall also be bound:

1. To provide the vessels with water and wholesome food fully sufficient for the number of persons conveyed, and for the length of the voyage.

2. To adopt the necessary precautions in order to maintain in the said vessels the cleanliness and ventilation indispensable for the health of the passengers.

3. To carry a physician and medicine-chest on board when the number of persons embarked is above a hundred.

4. To subject themselves, on their arrival at any port of Cuba, to the sanitary and police regulations in force there.

XI. In order to insure the observance of these regulations the colonists must only be imported at the port of Havana, except in case of shipwreck or other inevitable accident, which may render the arrival and landing at some other port a matter of necessity.

XII. Within twenty-four hours after the arrival of the vessel, or after its admission to free pratique, the importer shall present a list of the colonists embarked by him, accompanied by their contracts, and by a return showing the number of those who may have died during the passage and the causes of their deaths. The Governor Captain-General, after seeing these documents, and after taking all the steps which he may deem necessary to prevent fraud, will permit the disembarkation.

XIII. The importers of colonists may transfer them to other employers, or to planters or individuals, on such terms as they may think fit, the latter always obliging themselves to fulfil the contracts entered into with the said colonists and to conform to these regulations. The persons receiving such transfers of colonists may reassign them to other parties on the same conditions, and if on a transfer of colonists the terms of the original contract should be altered without the consent of the colonists, such transfer shall be null and void.

XIV. Both the importers and receivers of colonists shall give an account to the Government of the number of the latter transferred or received within twenty-four hours after the conclusion of the contract, stating the number, sex, and age of said colonists, the vessel in which they arrived, the conditions of the contract made with them, the nature of the labour in which they are to be employed, and the place where they are going to reside.

The Government will then deliver to the receiver the contracts received from the importer relative to the ceded colonists, after entering their contents in the books which shall be kept for that purpose in the office of the Political Secretary.

XV. The residence of the colonists may not be transferred from one part of the island to another without a previous intimation to the Government.

CHAPTER 2.

Of the Reciprocal Obligations and Rights of the Colonists and their Masters.

XVI. The Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba shall be the official protector of the colonists, and shall execute this trust in the districts

through his delegates, the respective Governors or Lieutenant-Governors, who in their turn shall be assisted therein, and without necessity of previous delegation, by the District Captains. These functionaries shall proceed in every case under the direction and orders of the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors.

XVII. In legal matters and when the masters of the colonists do not appear for them, the Syndics of the Corporations or their substitutes in the Municipal Juntas, shall be the defenders of the colonists in the inferior Courts, and in the superior Courts Her Majesty's Fiscal Officers.

XVIII. The delegated protectors shall attend to the proper treatment of the colonists and the fulfilment of their contracts; they shall propose to the official protector the measures which they consider requisite for their welfare and encouragement; and shall settle equitably and without form of law the questions which may arise between the colonists and their masters.

If these questions should involve any point of law, the protector shall decide them summarily, taking *vivâ voce* evidence, and hearing the opinion of an assessor.

If the subject should be of greater legal importance, it shall be decided by the proper authority and according to the established forms of law.

XIX. It is understood that the colonists in signing or accepting their contracts with the importers, renounce the exercise of all civil rights which may be incompatible with the fulfilment of the obligations which they incur, unless some right is treated of which is expressly declared by these regulations.

XX. The colonists may contract marriage with the consent of their masters.

If a colonist who is of age should wish to marry, and his master should oppose it, he may redeem himself from his master under the conditions prescribed in Article XXVIII, or he may seek another master who may receive him with the same conditions.

XXI. The colonists shall exercise over their children all the rights of paternal power, and over their wives all the rights of marital power, in as far as those rights are compatible with the legal condition of the said children and wives.

XXII. The children of the colonists shall follow the condition of their mothers all the time that the contract of the latter lasts if born during the same; but on completing eighteen years of age they shall be entirely free, although their mothers should continue under contract.

The children under age whom the women have at the time of hiring shall follow the condition which the women may stipulate with the contractors. If nothing should be stipulated they shall be entirely free, but they shall have a right to be fed, lodged, and clothed, by the masters of their mothers, under the conditions established for those under twelve years old.

XXIII. The children of the colonists born under the power of the masters of their mothers shall have the same right while they follow the condition of the latter, but with the obligation to render in the meantime to the said masters the services of which they are capable according to their age.

XXIV. The married colonists may not be transferred to any person who does not at the same time take both husband and wife and their children, under twelve years of age. The masters may not oblige the husbands to live habitually separated from their wives, nor the latter from their children under twelve years of age.

XXV. The colonists may acquire property, and dispose of what may belong to them by valid title, provided the contracts which they may make do not involve any express or tacit condition, the fulfilment of which may be incompatible with their contracts with the masters.

XXVI. The colonists may also take legal proceedings against their masters, being represented in the manner prescribed in Article XVII, and against other persons being represented by their own masters, if the latter should be willing to undertake their defence.

If the master should decline to do so, or if in a suit between him and a third party the master's interest should be opposed to that of his colonists, the latter must be represented by the Syndic in the inferior Courts, and by Her Majesty's Fiscal in the superior.

XXVII. The colonists who may have made contracts when under twenty years of age, shall have the right of rescinding them when they attain twenty-five years of age. Those who may have made contracts when above twenty years old, shall have the same right after six years' contract. The masters shall likewise have the power to rescind them at the same periods at which the colonists have this right. The colonist shall in no case be able to make use of the right recognized in this Article unless he indemnifies his master, either by labour or in some other mode, for what he may owe him.

XXVIII. Every colonist shall be able to redeem himself at any time from the power of his master, provided he pays him in cash :

1. The amount which he may have paid for his acquisition.
2. That which the same colonist may owe him as compensation for labour or on any other account.
3. The increased value which, in the judgment of men of skill, the services of the colonist may have acquired since he entered the master's employment.
4. The amount of the loss which the master may incur from the difficulty of replacing the colonist by another.

The colonist shall not be able to make use of this right in time of "zaffra," or during any other of the pressing employments permitted on holidays.

XXIX. If any master shall treat a colonist harshly, or shall fail to fulfil his engagements towards him, the colonist may apply to the delegated protector, and if the latter on hearing both parties should be convinced of the justice of the complaint, he will allow the contract to be annulled.

This annulment may be granted without compensation to the master for what he may have given for the acquisition of the colonist, and without barring any civil or criminal action on the part of either party.

XXX. In the days and hours of rest the colonists may work on their own account within the establishment or estate where they reside ; and if they should wish to work out of it, they must previously obtain the permission of the master.

In the same days and hours they may also indulge in such harmless amusements as may not disturb the discipline of the establishment or estate.

XXXI. The colonists shall freely dispose of the produce of their property and of their work done in the days and hours of rest, but they shall not be allowed to establish any retail trade against the will of their master.

XXXII. Whenever the colonist wishes to sell his furniture or moveables, he shall inform his master, who shall be preferred *pro tanto* to any other purchaser.

XXXIII. When the master concedes to his colonist any lot of land for cultivation during the days and hours of rest, the colonist shall acquire the entire produce unless his master may have stipulated otherwise with him.

XXXIV. The colonists shall not be able to leave the estate or establishment in which they serve without the written permission of their master or his delegate, and any colonists found unprovided with such a permit shall be apprehended by the authorities, and taken home at the master's expense.

XXXV. When it may have been stipulated in the contracts that the colonists shall have any particular kind of food, or clothes of a particular make or sort, and if circumstances should prevent the master from providing the same, the kind, quality, or make of either may be altered, but not the quantity.

If the colonists should not be content with this change they shall apply to their protector, who will settle the matter fairly between the parties, with due regard to the essential right of the colonists.

XXXVI. Whatever stipulations may have been made in the contracts as to medical assistants for the colonists, it shall comprise, not only the attendance of the practitioner, but also such medicines and food as the physicians may prescribe during illness and convalescence.

XXXVII. The colonists shall work for their masters, on every day that is not a holiday, during the number of hours agreed upon in the contract.

It is understood that days which are not holidays, for the purposes of this Article, are all those on which the precept of the church does not prohibit

labour, and those which, notwithstanding the festival celebrated thereon, shall be authorized by the ecclesiastical authority as working days.

XXXVIII. Notwithstanding any stipulation to the contrary, the masters shall have no right to exact from their colonists more than twelve hours daily labour on an average.

XXXIX. If a contract shall contain a stipulation as to the right of the master to arrange in the manner most advantageous for his interests the hours of labour agreed upon with the colonist, as prescribed in No. 6 of Article VI, that right shall be understood as limited, so that the colonist can never be obliged to work more than fifteen hours in one day, and so that he shall always have at least six consecutive hours of rest by night or by day.

If the said right should not have been stipulated in the contract, the master shall not have power to exact from the colonist more hours of work in each day than those agreed upon.

XL. The colonist must render to his master all lawful services that he may require, unless it shall have been agreed in the contract that the colonist is to be employed exclusively in certain labours.

In such case the colonist may resist being employed in labours different from those stipulated.

The master may let out to a third person the services of his colonist, for employment in such work as is stipulated in the contract, and to which no condition of the contract is opposed.

XLI. When the colonist is ill or convalescent, he shall not be obliged to work until the medical man declares that he may do so without danger to his health.

XLII. The masters shall pay their colonists the stipulated wages in the form and manner agreed upon in the contract.

XLIII. The colonists shall receive the whole of their wages while they are ill or convalescent from illness contracted in consequence of labour, or from any cause dependent on the will of the master. If the illness should proceed from other causes, the colonist will not have the same right unless it may have been stipulated in the contract.

XLIV. The colonist who, according to his contract, is entitled to receive his wages during illness arising from whatever cause, shall have no right to demand his wages if his illness arises from any wilful act of his own.

XLV. For all the purposes of the two previous Articles and of Article XXXVI, the diseases of the colonists shall be reported upon by the medical men of the estate or establishment in which the colonists are employed, and in default of them, by two physicians named by the master.

If the colonist should demur to their opinion, he may apply to the delegated protector, in order that, by his direction, the colonist may be re-examined by two practitioners: one to be named by him, and another by the master, by whose decision both parties shall abide without further appeal. If the physicians named by the master and the colonist disagree, the delegated protector shall name a third, whose decision shall be final.

XLVI. The colonists shall compensate their masters for the days and hours during which they may have neglected to work through their own fault, and for that purpose their engagement shall be extended for the necessary time. The colonist shall not receive any wages for the days of labour lost by his fault, unless the contrary be expressly stipulated in the contract.

The regulations of this Article shall hold good without barring the other penalties which the colonist may incur by the offence in question.

XLVII. In fulfilment of the regulations contained in the first paragraph of the previous Article, the owners or superintendents of the estates or establishments in which the colonists work shall keep books containing an account of the daily labour of the colonists, and of the payments made to them, so that the account of what is owed by or due to any one, may be made out at any time, and in the former case it may be known for what period the respective contracts ought to be prolonged.

XLVIII. At the end of each month the account corresponding to the labour and payment of each colonist shall be closed, and he shall be informed of the result, in order that if he have any remark to make he may do so at

once, or may apply to the protector if he should not concur in the master's statement of the account.

XLIX. The clause which, with reference to Article VI, paragraph 8, every contract ought to contain, as to the colonist subjecting himself to the discipline of the estate or establishment in which he has to work, and any other stipulation which obliges him to obey his master's orders, shall be always understood with the proviso that the rules or orders proscribed to the colonist shall not be contrary to other conditions of the same contract, nor to the tenor of these regulations.

L. When any colonist deserts from the estate or establishment in which he is serving, the master shall inform the local authority, in order that the necessary steps may be taken for his pursuit.

The master shall pay at once the expenses occasioned by his capture and restitution, but shall have a right to indemnify himself for them by deducting from the fugitive colonist half the wages due to him.

LI. If a master should have in his service non-Catholic colonists, he shall provide for their instruction in the doctrines and morality of the true religion, but without employing other means for this purpose than persuasion and conviction; and if any one shall express a wish to conform to the Catholic faith, the master shall inform the parish priest.

LII. When a colonist shall suffer in his person or interests a wrong or injury not amounting to a crime, from a free man, or from a colonist of another ownership, the master shall take cognizance of the fact, and if he think the complaint just, shall demand from the offender or his master, by friendly or extra-judicial means, the reparation due; and if these means be not sufficient, he shall seek redress before the competent authority, or state the fact to the Syndic, in order that he may do so. If the complaint of the colonist should be thought unfounded, he shall be informed accordingly, and advised to abandon his complaint; but if the colonist should refuse to do so, he may apply to the Syndic to make the proper claim. When the complaint is directed against another colonist belonging to the same master, the latter, or his delegate, shall decide the question in the manner that he thinks just, Either of the parties may appeal against this decision to the protector or his delegate, who shall take cognizance of the matter in the form prescribed in Article XVIII.

LIII. The importers of colonists, and the masters who may fail to comply with any of the obligations or formalities prescribed in this and the previous chapter, shall incur a fine proportionate to the gravity of the case, which shall be imposed summarily without prejudice to the penal or civil responsibility to which they may be subject, and which the authority will have to exact from them in the proper form.

LIV. The colonists shall not be entitled to claim, at any time, from their master, the Government, or the importers, the payment of the expenses of their return voyage to their country, unless their contracts contain an express stipulation to that effect.

LV. On the expiration of the contract, the colonists shall have all the rights that belong to them respectively, according to their origin as Spaniards or foreigners, without any difference between them and those who may never have been colonists.

CHAPTER 3.

Of the Disciplinary Jurisdiction of the Masters.

LVI. The masters shall exercise a disciplinary jurisdiction over their colonists, and in virtue of it shall be able to impose the following punishments:

1. Confinement from one to ten days.
2. Stoppage of wages during that time. The first of these punishments may be inflicted without the second, but the latter may never be applied without he former.

LVII. Whenever the master inflicts on his colonists either of the penalties mentioned in the previous Article, he shall give information within the next twenty-four hours to the proper protector, in order that he may investigate, if

he think proper, the offence committed, and may alter the sentence of the master if it should appear unjust.

Any master omitting to give the said notice within the time specified shall be subject to a summary fine of 25 to 100 dollars.

LVIII. The colonists may, in every case, complain to the protector of any wrong done them by their masters, whether by punishing them without cause, by imposing penalties which are not within their competence, or by otherwise improperly treating them.

If the protector find the master guilty of any offence, he shall denounce him to the proper tribunal; and if the offence shall be only a slight one, he shall himself impose a fine not exceeding 100 dollars.

LIX. In order to ensure the fulfilment of the regulations of the two preceding Articles, the protectors shall have the power to visit, when they think proper, the estates or establishments where there are colonists, either personally or by means of other functionaries, and to examine the colonists as they may think fit.

LX. The delegates of the master in the estate or establishment in which the colonists work, may also exercise disciplinary jurisdiction, but under the pecuniary responsibility of the same master, and without prejudice to the penal responsibility which they may incur.

LXI. The following offences shall be punished as above (disciplinamente):

1. Insubordination to the master, to the superintendents, or to any other delegate of the master.

2. Refusal to work, or want of punctuality in any particular piece of work.

3. Injuries which do not oblige the party injured to suspend work.

4. Desertion.

5. Drunkenness.

6. Infraction of the rules of discipline established by the master.

7. Offences against good manners not constituting crimes, which cannot be prosecuted unless at the instance of the parties, or which constituting a crime of this kind are not prosecuted by the party offended.

8. Any other act done with malice, and from which injury or damage accrues to a third person, and which nevertheless does not constitute an offence subject to legal prosecution.

LXII. The disciplinary jurisdiction shall be exercised by the masters without prejudice to the right of injured parties to require that the offending colonist shall be punished by the tribunals if there be just cause.

LXIII. The ordinary tribunals, to which the colonists shall present themselves represented in the form prescribed in Article XXVI, shall have cognizance in all cases of penal or civil responsibility in which the masters are not competent judges according to the regulation in Article LXI.

LXIV. When the punishments pointed out in Article LVI are not sufficient to prevent the colonists from repeating the same or committing other offences, the master shall apply to the protector, who, if the act constitutes an offence according to the laws, shall decide that the guilty colonist may be punished by them; and if not, by additional disciplinary punishment.

LXV. If the colonists of an estate should mutiny, or resist by force and collectively the orders of their superiors, the master may also employ force to bring them to order; and he shall give immediate information to the delegated protector, in order that if the gravity of the case require it, he may take measures for having the guilty colonists punished at once in the presence of the other colonists.

LXVI. The regulations hitherto in force relative to Chinese and Yucatan colonists are hereby abrogated.

General Regulation.

The Governor Captain-General of the island shall take the proper measures in order that every year, by the month of January, lists of the colonists may be made out or corrected; the lists shall state their names, sex, ages, country, whether they are married or single, their trades, the period of their contract, and the name, profession, and domicile of their respective masters.

The same authority shall send to the Presidency of the Council of Ministers an annual abstract of the said registers, stating the number of colonists of each nation, classified by sexes; by ages up to 15 years, from 15 to 50, and from that age upwards; by condition, as unmarried, married, or widowers; by occupations, whether agricultural, industrial, or domestic; by the districts in which they reside; and by the time of duration of their contracts, according as they may be under 5 years, from 5 to 10 years, from 10 to 15 years, and from 15 years upwards.

Given at the Palace, March 22, 1854.

Signed by the Royal Hand.

The President of the Council of Ministers,

(Signed)

LUIS JOSE SARTORIUS.

Taking into consideration the reasons stated to me by my President of the Council of Ministers, and in conformity with the opinion of the same Council I have determined to approve the following Regulations, which are to be observed in the Island of Cuba for preparing lists and a civil register of slaves:

CHAPTER 1.

Respecting Lists and First Inscription of Slaves in the Civil Register.

ART. I. On such days as the Captain-General may fix, the municipal officers of the towns (pedáneos), accompanied by such functionaries or private individuals as the respective Governors or Lieutenant-Governors may appoint, will proceed to the preparation of the lists of slaves throughout the island.

II. These lists shall state, with due clearness and exactitude, the names of the slaves, their sex, the nation to which they belong, and their age, if it be known, and if not known, what their age may appear to be; also the names of their parents, if known, their social position, their occupation, their personal description, and lastly, the name, profession, and domicile of the owner.

III. The municipal officers and the delegates accompanying them will sign all the lists of their district, and the owners of slaves will sign their own lists, both being responsible to the Governor or to the tribunals, according to the gravity of the case, for any mistake or any inexactitude showing a fraudulent intention.

IV. Any owner of slaves who shall cause to be entered in the lists a greater number of slaves than he really possesses, shall pay a fine of from 200 to 500 dollars for every additional slave so entered.

V. The same penalty shall be inflicted on the owner who shall enter any of his slaves with a false description showing a fraudulent intention.

VI. The "pedáneo" and delegates who may be convicted of connivance in any of the frauds alluded to in the two preceding Articles, shall be tried and punished as forgers of public documents.

VII. After the expiration of the term fixed for the formation of the lists, the "pedáneos" will send them in original to the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of the respective district, keeping a certified copy of the same.

VIII. In every chief town of a district a civil register of slaves shall be established, which shall comprise all those slaves who may have their habitual residence within the same district, and which will be intrusted to a public functionary appointed by the Government.

IX. The Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, on receiving the lists from the "pedáneos," will transmit them, with his certificate, to the keeper of the register for the inscription in the latter of all the slaves comprised in the lists, without omitting any of the marks or circumstances noted therein.

X. After the expiration of the time fixed for the formation of the lists, and when the civil registers in the districts shall be opened, the Captain-General will fix a further short period, not to be extended, during which the owners of slaves, who, for any reason whatever, may have omitted to enter any of their

slaves, may present themselves to the "pedáneo," together with the omitted slaves in question, to have them entered.

XI. After the expiration of this second term, the "pedáneos" shall transmit to the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor the lists which they may have drawn up during this second period, in the manner prescribed in Articles II, III, VI, and VII, and then the registers for all first inscriptions shall be irrevocably closed, excepting the inscription of newly-born children, or that which may be ordered to be made by the proper authorities after due examination of the circumstances of the case.

XII. The registers being closed, the Captain-General will fix a further period within which the owners of slaves shall receive, through the "pedáneos," two certified copies of the inscription of each slave, which shall be called "cédulas de registro" (register tickets).

XIII. The register tickets shall state briefly the description and circumstances of each slave, according to the tenor of the inscription, and they will be issued by the keeper of the register, and countersigned by the respective Governor or Lieutenant-Governor.

XIV. The Governors or Lieutenant-Governors will cause new register tickets to be issued whenever they may be requested to do so by the owners of slaves, in consequence of the original ones having been lost; and the keepers of registers will also issue such tickets by their own authority whenever they may make any alteration in the original inscription, or when they enter for the first time in their register any slaves proceeding from other districts and registered in the same according to the rules to be laid down in the next Chapter.

The issuing of the ticket shall always be entered in the register-book, and if it should be issued in duplicate, the reason for so doing will be stated.

XV. The registers being once closed, all slaves who may not have been inscribed therein by their owners shall be considered as manumitted and free, by virtue of the law, with the exception of those cases in which the proper authorities may direct the slaves to be registered, according to the regulations hereinafter laid down.

XVI. After the expiration of the term in which the owners of slaves are to receive from the "pedáneos" the register tickets, the slaves will not be allowed to pass freely in the country or on the public roads without carrying with them one of the copies of their ticket.

Any slave who may be found without this document will be treated as a deserter; and after his arrest by the authorities notice will be sent to the owner that he may present the register ticket.

If within thirty days after that in which the owner has received the aforesaid notice the register ticket shall not be presented the slave shall be declared free, and the proper authority will deliver to him his letter of freedom.

XVII. After the register has been closed, only the following slaves will be inscribed in it for the first time:

1. Slaves born subsequently to the closing of the register.
2. Those who may be declared slaves by sentence of the Courts of Justice and after due proof of their legitimate origin.
3. Those whom the Captain-General or his delegates the Governors or Lieutenant-Governors may direct to be entered as legitimately imported into the island, or as not having been in the possession of their owners during the period fixed for their inscription.

XVIII. The newly-born slaves shall be entered by their owners within one month, to be reckoned from the day of their birth, in the form prescribed in Article II.

XIX. The men of colour whose state of freedom or of slavery may be in question before the Courts of Justice, shall be entered with a note of this circumstance; but the sentence whereby they are declared slaves will have no force whatsoever so long as it has not been registered in the form hereinafter described.

XX. Any person legitimately importing any slave into the Island of Cuba shall present him, within eight days after his arrival, to the superior political authority of the port in which he has been landed, in order that that functionary,

after having duly ascertained the legitimacy of his origin, may direct him to be registered in the town where he is to reside.

If the slaves so imported should be obliged to continue their journey, in company with their owners, within the eight days, the owners shall cause them to be included in their own passports until they arrive at the place where they are to fix their residence.

If the order for entering a slave is to be carried into effect out of the district of the authority by whom it has been given, such order will only serve as a pass, in order that the slave may present himself to the Governor or the Lieutenant-Governor of the district where he is to reside, and that the owner may apply to the aforesaid functionaries to have the slave registered after the necessary inquiries.

In no case shall the pass in question be valid beyond thirty days from its date.

XXI. The Governors of penal establishments will cause the slaves who may be under their custody to be registered, stating, in the register of each slave, the owner to whom he belongs, the cause of his imprisonment, the period of his sentence, and how much of it is unexpired.

XXII. Those slaves who may have run away during the time fixed for the registration, and who may subsequently be found, shall be registered, after they have been presented by their owners to the Governor or the Lieutenant Governor of the district, and after these functionaries shall have duly ascertained the fact of the slave having run away.

CHAPTER 2.

Yearly Revision of Lists, and Inscription of the Titles relative to Slaves.

XXIII. Every year, in the month of January, and on the days which the Captain-General may appoint, the "pedáneos" will proceed to revise the official lists of the preceding year with all the formalities prescribed in Articles I, II, and III, and under the responsibility established in Articles IV, V, and VI.

XXIV. The revised lists will be transmitted, through the same channel and in the same manner as the first ones, to the proper keeper of the register.

XXV. The keeper of the register will compare the description of each slave in the list with his inscription in the register; and if they agree with each other, he will issue new register tickets, noting in the book that the two documents are identical.

Should he find any difference between them, he will report it to the proper Governor or Lieutenant-Governor, in order that this functionary, being aware of the fact, may take measures against the party concerned, and may give directions as to the issuing of the register ticket.

XXVI. After the revision of the official lists, and the issuing of the new register tickets, the old ones shall be annulled, and will become invalid.

XXVII. The owners of slaves shall report direct, and in writing, to the keeper of the register, within the fortnight subsequent to the conclusion of any acts or contracts, every change which may occur in the condition of any slave, or in the rights exercised over them. Consequently the owners are bound to report the manumissions, the partial redemptions (*coartaciones*), the sales, and any other transactions which may involve either a total or partial transfer of ownership, or any stipulation or reservation which may cause the revocation, dissolution, restriction, or suspension of the free power of disposing of the slaves; the usufruct and the adjudications *in solutum*; the leases whereby the place of residence of the slave may have to be changed for a longer time than that which is to elapse between the conclusion of the contract and the next revision of the lists; and also all such leases, whatever be the time of their duration, whereby the plantation or estate to which the slaves belong has been let to another person; and, finally, the marriages and deaths of the slaves.

XXVIII. All such acts or contracts as are, or ought to be, drawn up in the form of a public deed, according to law or custom, shall be reported by the owners by exhibiting to the keeper of registers a certified copy of such deed.

XXIX. All such acts or contracts as do not require the aforesaid formality, and which have been drawn up only in the form of a private transaction, shall be reported by presenting a copy of the same, signed by the same persons who may have subscribed the original deed.

XXX. The registration of all titles transferring, modifying, or revoking the ownership of the slaves, and which may be the consequence of a judicial sentence or of an arbitration, will be made by exhibiting a copy of the aforesaid sentence delivered by order of the Judge or of the Court of Justice which has pronounced it.

The Judge or Court of Justice will cause this document to be issued gratis whenever the title to be registered is favourable to the slave.

XXXI. All titles, either under a will or an intestacy, shall be registered, in the former case, by the heir exhibiting a copy of the will or of the division of the inheritance, and, in the latter, by exhibiting a legalized copy of the judicial writ adjudicating the intestate succession; and in case the judicial authority should not have acted in the case, by presenting a certificate from the Judge or the "pedáneo" of the place in which the will has been made, proving that the person who requests the registration is in undisturbed possession of the inheritance.

XXXII. Verbal acts and contracts shall be separately reported by both contracting parties, who shall set forth in their written report, to be signed by them, all the conditions of the agreement.

XXXIII. The marriages and deaths shall be reported by the owners by means of a note signed by them, and also by the parson of the parish in a similar note, stating the book and page in which the entry has been made in the parochial register.

The parson shall record in his register, the circumstance of his having reported the fact to the keeper of the slave register.

XXXIV. Whenever the keeper of the register shall receive any of the documents mentioned in the preceding Articles, he will make a proper record of the circumstances in the registry of the slave in order to facilitate thereby the ascertainment of the rights acquired by or over the slave, together with all the conditions which may modify such a right or the fact in question.

No note will be written on the register if it be not proved by the same register that the person possessing the right which is to be inscribed is the present owner of the slave.

XXXV. Such acts or contracts as require to be registered, shall only be binding after the date of their inscription or record in the register.

XXXVI. No person possessing a registered title can be deprived thereof by any subsequent or previous act, if such act is not duly recorded in the same register.

XXXVII. The keeper of the register, after making the proper record, will keep in proper order the documents which may have been exhibited to him for the aforesaid purpose, unless they be public deeds, in which case he will return them to the parties, after certifying thereon the fact of their having been registered.

At the same time, and in all cases in which the slaves remain in their state of slavery, the keeper of the register will deliver to the owners new register tickets, always taking from them, if possible, the old ones, and those belonging to deceased or manumitted slaves.

XXXVIII. The owners are bound to report the manumission or partial redemption (coartacion) of their slaves, under the penalty of paying a fine of from 100 to 500 dollars, should they fail to do so.

The same penalty will be inflicted on the owners or vicars who should omit to report the death of any of the slaves, but the fine will be reduced to one-fourth part of the aforesaid sum, if the omission be relative to the marriage of a slave.

XXXIX. The obligation of reporting any other written act or contract which may confer a right over a slave, is incumbent upon the person who acquires such a right, under the penalty of being unable to claim the slave at any time, should he not fulfil that obligation within the fixed term.

XL. In verbal acts and contracts entailing on both contracting parties the obligation of reporting the same, the omission to do so will be punished, with regard to the buyer, by the penalty mentioned in the foregoing Article; and with regard to the seller, by a fine of 15 to 50 dollars.

XLI. Whenever any owner may desire to change the residence of his slaves from one district to another, he shall request the registrar of the district he is going to leave, to cancel the entries relative to the aforesaid slaves, and to return to him the official lists of the same, with which he will present himself to the "pedáneo" of the town or rural district where the slaves are to reside, and will request their registration.

The "pedáneo" shall immediately comply with his request, after a previous inspection of the slaves in question; and he will forward the new official lists which he is to draw up, together with the old ones, to the Governor or the Lieutenant-Governor of the district, who will direct the registrar to make the proper entries, and to issue the corresponding register tickets.

XLII. The Governors of penal establishments shall report the release of those slaves whom they may have under their custody, to the registrar of the district where the owners of such slaves reside.

The owners of the slaves in question shall also make a similar report within the first fortnight after the reception of the slaves in their houses or estates; and the registrar will make the necessary record, after ascertaining the conformity of both reports.

CHAPTER 3.

Keeping of the Register.

XLIII. The civil register of the slaves of every district will be intrusted to a keeper appointed by the Queen, and proposed to Her Majesty by the Captain-General of the island.

XLIV. The registrars, previous to entering upon the discharge of their duties, shall swear before the Governor or the Lieutenant-Governor of the district that they will discharge their duties honourably and faithfully; and they will also give proper security in cash or landed property, at the discretion of the Captain-General.

Whenever there may be several applicants for one of these posts, the preference shall be given to the person offering the largest security, provided he is not otherwise disqualified for the post.

XLV. The registrars will have no other salary than a fee of one "real fuerte" (the eighth part of one dollar, or about sixpence), for every register ticket which they may issue, and the fees on certificates, as is hereinafter provided.

The above-mentioned fees shall be paid by the owner of the slave on whose behalf the register tickets shall be issued, or by the person applying for the certificate.

XLVI. The registrar shall keep a book in which he will make a short entry of the documents which may be exhibited to him on the presentation of a slave, stating the nature of each document, the registration or record which may be requested, the day and the hour of the presentation, and the name of the person who makes the presentation.

XLVII. The registrar will examine the documents alluded to in the foregoing Article, in the same order in which they are presented to him; and after finishing this examination, he will enter in another book those documents which he may find drawn up in a legal form.

XLVIII. If the registrar should find in any document an omission capable of being supplied, he will suspend the registration, and will send back the document in question to the person or functionary who may have presented it, and will record this circumstance in the corresponding book.

Should the defective document be a private one, the registrar will summon the parties concerned, in order that they may, by agreement and in writing, explain any obscure passage, or amend the error committed.

Should the registrar find it necessary, in consequence of any mistake or defect in a document, to refuse to make the entry or record, he will state this

circumstance in the proper book, and will give to the party concerned a certificate of this record, returning to him the presented document.

In this case, any loss arising from the absence of the registration, will only fall upon the person responsible for the omission.

XLIX. The registrar shall give to any person who may require it a certificate of anything stated or omitted to be stated in the register.

When such certificates are requested by persons not having an apparent and direct interest in the acts or contracts noted in the register relative to slaves, the registrar will exact for every certificate a fee of four reales fuertes (half-a-dollar, or two shillings) less the amount of stamped paper.

L. The registrar will immediately rectify any mistake he may make in the entries or records, and will make the proper explanations in the register, withdrawing, on his own account, the register-tickets or certificates which he may have issued with any mistake in them, and he will replace them with new ones.

LI. The registrar will be held responsible with his bail, and in default thereof with his own property, for all damages and losses of which he may be the cause in consequence of any omission which may be imputed to him or to his subordinates; and he will be, moreover, liable to be fined for every one of such omissions in the sum of from 25 to 250 dollars, besides the judicial responsibility he may have incurred, according to common law.

LII. Any slave who may not have been registered, owing to an omission on the part of the registrar shall be free; but the registrar will be bound to make good to the owner the sum of money at which the slave in question may be valued.

LIII. The Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba will issue the proper instructions for the formation of the register-books; prescribing the formalities with which they are to be kept; and publishing models to serve as a pattern for inscriptions, and for records of every kind, certificates, and register-tickets.

Provisional Regulations.

LIV. The Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba will adopt the proper measures for the immediate execution of the present Regulations; and will settle, by his own authority, any doubtful points which may arise, and he will decide any unforeseen case, subsequently submitting the same to my Royal approbation.

LV. The aforesaid functionary will provisionally appoint the registrars who are to be established; for which post he may select, provided he may think proper, public notaries or functionaries of another class.

LVI. The Captain-General will likewise fix, *ad interim*—pending a reference through the President of the Council of Ministers, for the proper decision thereupon—the amount of security which is to be given by the registrars whom he may at once appoint.

General Regulation.

When the lists of slaves are drawn up, the Governor and Captain-General will transmit to the Government, through the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, a return stating the number of registered slaves, and specifying the respective number of males and females; the married and unmarried of both sexes; widowers and widows; slaves under fifteen years of age, and those above that age, and under fifty; and lastly, those above fifty, making the proper distinction of sexes, and stating, also, the number of slaves employed in agriculture, industry, and domestic service.

The aforesaid functionary will transmit to the Government, in the month of March, a similar return, according to the lists which will have been rectified in January, stating the number of births and deaths during the year.

Done at the Palace, March 22, 1854.

(Signed Manû Regia.)

(Countersigned)

LUIS JOSE SARTORIUS,
President of the Council of Ministers.

No. 385.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 28, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 13th instant, inclosing copies of Royal Decrees issued at Madrid on the 22nd ultimo, with regard to slavery in Cuba, and with a view of promoting colonisation in that island.

I have received these documents with sincere satisfaction, and it is my agreeable duty in reply to instruct your Lordship to convey to the Spanish Government the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the adoption of measures, which, if faithfully carried out, as they doubtless will be by the distinguished officer who now fills the office of Captain-General in Cuba, must go far to put a stop to the nefarious Traffic, which for so many years has been the cause of difference between England and Spain.

Her Majesty's Government rejoice at this improved prospect, not less on account of humanity than of the relations between the two countries, which Her Majesty's Government desire always to see placed on the most cordial and friendly footing.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 386.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 11, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of January,* inclosing a letter addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers by the Conde de Bagaes, denying that his agents in Cuba had connived at a landing of slaves, which was reported by Mr. Crawford to have taken place on his estate in that island on the 14th September, 1853; I have to inform your Lordship, that I transmitted copies of your despatch in question, and of its inclosures, to Mr. Crawford, for any observations which he might have to offer thereupon and I now transmit to your Lordship, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford in reply.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 387.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch ‡ from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, inclosing a circumstantial and apparently correct narrative of the details of certain transactions connected with several landings of slaves at the Ensenada de Cortez in Cuba, which were communicated to General Cañedo by Mr. Crawford in the course of last year.

The writer of this narrative exposes the disgraceful manner in which the managers of those landings, and particularly the persons concerned in the affair of the American barque "*Jasper*," succeeded by bribery and other means in eluding the several commissions of inquiry which were sent by General Cañedo to investigate these proceedings; and I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate the inclosed paper to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to point out to his Excellency how amply it corroborates

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 488.

† No. 459.

‡ No. 462.

the information from Mr. Crawford as to the importation of slaves into Cuba, and the connivance therein of the local authorities, which Her Majesty's Government have, during the year 1853, brought under the notice of Her Catholic Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 388.

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

My Lord,

Madrid, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship herewith, in translation, an extract from the "Official Gazette" of this day, engaging the punctual execution of the late order which enjoins a registration of slaves in Cuba, for the purpose of preventing the fraudulent introduction of more.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 388.

Extract from the Official Gazette of May 17, 1854.

(Translation.)

THE English newspaper named the "Morning Chronicle" of the 8th instant, published a letter from its own correspondent at Madrid, containing a paragraph the translation of which is as follows:—

"Owing to the influence of certain parties here connected with Cuba, who conceive that their interests will be affected by the registry of slaves directed to be drawn up by the recent Decree, subsequent orders have been, it appears, transmitted to General Pezuela not to carry that part of the Decree into effect. It is true, indeed, that such a proceeding as this would not be without a precedent, for when the Slave Trade Treaty with England was first made, in 1835, there was good reason for believing that the same conveyance which took out that Treaty, and the public instructions to the authorities of Cuba to carry it into effect, carried out private instructions which were by no means in word with the public ones. Should it happen that anything of the kind has been attempted on the present occasion, General Pezuela is the sort of man who would be very likely to throw up his place, should he consider it necessary to do so."

So far for the Madrid correspondence of the English newspaper. Now then, we are properly authorised to contradict, as we hereby do, in the most solemn manner, the absurd news which, accompanied with no less absurd comments, has been communicated to the editors of the "Morning Chronicle" by their misinformed correspondent at Madrid; and we are enabled to affirm that so far from there being the least foundation for the aforesaid rumour, the fact is, that extremely clear and peremptory orders have been issued to the General and Governor of the Island of Cuba, directing him to put the Royal Decrees in question into immediate and punctual execution, in all their parts, adopting for this purpose all measures which his zeal may suggest to him and which public expediency may advise.

No. 389.

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

(Extract.)

Madrid, May 17, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith, copy of a short note which I thought it well to address to Señor Calderon de la Barca. Although I was not instructed to make this communication, I trust that your Lordship will not see any reason to disapprove of it.

Inclosure in No. 389.

Lord Howden to Señor Calderon de la Barca.

Sir,

Madrid, May 17, 1854.

AS the Government of Her Catholic Majesty have frequently expressed their belief that Mr. Crawford Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General at Cuba, was actuated by personal hostility to the Captains-General of that island, and was labouring under prejudice and rancour in the communications he sent home on the subject of the Slave Trade, I take the liberty of transcribing a paragraph from a letter of Mr. Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon, which has been forwarded to me :

"The Captain-General Pezuela appears to be actuated by the most sincere desire to do everything in his power to check and put down the Traffic, as well as to ameliorate the condition of the slaves as much as possible, consistently with the security of the island under his government."

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 390.

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

My Lord,

Madrid, May 18, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca in reply to the communication which I addressed to his Excellency under the instructions in your Lordship's despatch of the 6th ultimo, proving the systematic manner in which the Slave Trade was carried on under the late Captain-General of Cuba, and showing the necessity of upholding and supporting the present Governor, the Marquis de la Pezuela.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 390.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, May 16, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note dated the 12th of April last, inclosing copies of Mr. Crawford's communications to Lord Clarendon, wherein he replies to the arguments contained in my note of the 12th of December of last year, relative to the three landings of slaves which were supposed to have taken place at the Ensenadas de Cortes and Del Carmelo, and at San Juan de los Remedios.

Although, after the recent declarations made by your Lordship and by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, acknowledging the energy with which

the Slave Trade is now persecuted, it would appear inopportune to enter into any detailed refutation of the arguments which are newly adduced by Mr. Crawford in support of a denunciation, the incorrectness whereof has been already proved, I cannot abstain, however, from calling your Lordship's attention to the pertinacity with which the British Consul still refuses to acknowledge the good faith and the activity, on the part of the Spanish authorities, which are demonstrated, in so striking a manner, in the process which was instituted for the purpose of eliciting the truth which there might have been in the landings above alluded to. By my aforesaid note of the 12th December last, your Lordship will have perceived, that in the case in question, no efforts whatsoever were spared to attain the above-mentioned object; and when, notwithstanding all these efforts, no traces were found which might lead to the presumption that the landings in question had taken place, the depositions to the contrary, on the part of three sailors, which is the principal basis on which Mr. Crawford founds his arguments for still maintaining the correctness of the aforesaid landings, cannot certainly be very strong.

I, therefore, will abstain from protracting, as I have stated above, the discussion upon a matter which, in my opinion, ought to be considered as settled.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 391.

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

My Lord,

Madrid, May 18, 1854.

IN conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, I communicated to Señor Calderon de la Barca copy of Mr. Consul-General Crawford's despatch to your Lordship of the 9th March, inclosing copies of the defence set up in behalf of the three British sailors who were on board the slave-ship "*Jasper*," and also of the sentence of the Court, in virtue of which they have been set at liberty.

His Excellency has addressed to me in reply the note a translation of which I herewith inclose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 391.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, May 15, 1854.

THE Undersigned, First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has learnt with satisfaction, by the note of Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary dated the 11th of April last, the satisfactory termination of the trial in Cuba, of the three English sailors who were found on board the schooner "*Jasper*."

As the Cabinet of Her Britannic Majesty is convinced of the sincerity and energy with which the Slave Trade is now persecuted in the Island of Cuba, the Undersigned thinks it would be inopportune to enter at present into any discussion upon the insinuations which Mr. Crawford made on this subject in his despatch, copy of which was inclosed in the above-mentioned note.

The Undersigned, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 392.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo,* inclosing an extract from the "Madrid Gazette" of that day, which in contradiction of a statement which had appeared in the "Morning Chronicle" of the 8th of May, asserts that distinct and positive orders had been sent to the Governor-General of Cuba, directing him to carry into immediate effect the Royal Decrees respecting Slavery in Cuba which were issued on the 22nd of March last. And I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of informing Señor Calderon de la Barca, that the assurance contained in the above-mentioned article of the "Madrid Gazette" has afforded great satisfaction to Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 393.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, June 5, 1854.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo,† I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having communicated to Señor Calderon de la Barca the favourable expressions respecting the Captain-General of Cuba which were contained in Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 27th of March.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 394.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of two despatches‡ which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, relative to an important order which was issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, on the 3rd of May, prescribing regulations for the discovery of illegally imported negroes, and for the punishment of the authorities of any districts of the island where negroes shall be landed without official notice of such landings having been communicated to the Captain-General.

I have to instruct you to inform the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have received a copy of the above-mentioned Order, and that it is again my agreeable duty to thank the Spanish Government for the firm determination displayed by the Captain-General of Cuba in regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

And you will express the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Marquis de la Pezuela will receive the support and encouragement that he is justly entitled to expect on the part of the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 388.

† No. 389.

‡ Nos. 476 and 477.

No. 395.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 21, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith translation of a note which I have received from Señor Calderon de la Barca, in answer to a communication addressed by Lord Howden to his Excellency in pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 19th December last,* upon the subject of a reported landing of upwards of 300 negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos, towards the middle of October 1853.

Your Lordship will observe that his Excellency does not in any way allude to the number of negroes thus landed on this occasion, but confines himself to stating that 15 negroes from the landing in question have been taken and declared free.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure in No. 395.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 12, 1854.

IN my note of the 7th February last I informed you of the result of the investigations made by the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, for the purpose of ascertaining whether it was true that a schooner, rigged with the masts of the "*Venus*," was being fitted out for the Slave Trade in the Havana,—a fact which had been denounced as true by Mr. Crawford, and which was mentioned in your note of the 30th of December last.

In the last-mentioned note you alluded to a landing of negroes at the Ensenada de Cochinos; on this case information from the Captain-General has been received, from which it appears that 15 negroes, who formed part of the aforesaid landing, have been seized and declared free, having been put in apprenticeship, in conformity with the provisions of the regulations respecting the emancipados.

I hasten to communicate the above to you, as the complement of my aforesaid note of the 7th of February last.

(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

No. 396.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 30.)

My Lord,

Madrid, June 21, 1854.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 5th instant, to Lord Howden,† I have informed Señor Calderon de la Barca of the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the assurance given in the "*Madrid Gazette*" of the 17th of last month that the recent orders relating to the Slave Trade in Cuba will be carried into immediate effect.

His Excellency expressed himself as much pleased and gratified by the communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 482.

† No. 392.

No. 397.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* dated the 29th of May last, which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting that a cargo of Bozal negroes, which had been landed at Cardenas in April last, had been, by order of the Captain-General, pursued on to the estate whither they had been conveyed, and that the negroes had, by his Excellency's orders, been seized and declared emancipados; and I have to instruct you to express to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty the thanks and satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at this energetic proceeding on the part of the Marquis de la Pezuela.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 398.

Mr. Otway to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received July 9.)

My Lord,

Madrid, July 4, 1854.

IN reference to Lord Howden's despatch to your Lordship of the 23rd January last,† relative to the Spanish vessel "*Paquita*," supposed to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I have the honour to forward a translation of a note (and its inclosure), which has been addressed to me by Señor Calderon de la Barca, containing certain information which his Excellency had received from the Captain-General of Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) L. C. OTWAY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 398.

Señor Calderon de la Barca to Mr. Otway.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, June 29, 1854.

WITH reference to my note of the 13th of January of this year, relative to the Spanish brig "*Paquita*," which was supposed to be engaged in the Slave Trade, I have the honour to inclose copy of the communication which the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers, on this subject.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) A. CALDERON DE LA BARCA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 398.

The Marquis de la Pezuela to the President of the Council of Ministers.

(Translation.)

Havana, May 11, 1854.

I HAVE received the Royal order of the 12th February last, relative to a note addressed by Her Britannic Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary at Madrid to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, stating that the Spanish brig "*Paquita*," which had been denounced as a slaver, had sailed from Barcelona for the Havana, where she was to be fitted out for Africa, as she is supposed to have been after having landed her cargo.

* No. 482.

† See Class B, presented 1854, No. 493.

I have the honour to state to your Excellency in reply, that the aforesaid vessel, Don Francisco Segovia, master, and belonging to the register of Nuevitas in this island, arrived at the Havana, from Santander on the 7th of April last, with a cargo of flour, having cleared from that port on the 21st of February, and having landed her cargo here, she took, on the 12th of April, her bill of clearance for London, for which port she took on board 1,550 casks of sugar, and her hold having been visited on the 26th of the same month, no other articles were found on board than the aforesaid cases of sugar. This vessel is really fit for the reprobated Traffic of Africa; but the state of her rigging, according to my information, the neglected condition in which she is, the paucity of her crew and the small fire-place she has got, do not correspond with the well-found condition generally displayed on board of slavers; unless, on her arrival at London, she were to be provided with and furnish herself with the necessary supplies.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

EL MARQUES DE LA PEZUELA.

No. 399.

The Earl of Clarendon to Mr. Otway.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 24, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, reporting the exertions made by the Captain-General of Cuba to put an end to the Slave Trade, and I have to inform you that Her Majesty's Government learn these proceedings with the sincerest satisfaction.

If the predecessors of the present Captain-General had acted in the same praiseworthy manner, the Slave Trade never would have reached its present height, nor would the good faith of Spain have been called in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 400.

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

My Lord,

Madrid, August 20, 1854.

GENERAL CONCHA leaves this to-morrow for La Coruña and the Havana.

He dined with me yesterday, and on taking leave he requested me to state to Her Majesty's Government, that although under existing circumstances of all sort of difficulty coming from both America and home, it would be necessary for him to act with the greatest caution in what concerns property (I presume he alluded to the very thorny question of entering upon estates), yet, in everything that related to the fraudulent introduction of negroes, the British Government would find him the vigorous and uncompromising enemy of the slave-dealer, and one determined to maintain the Treaties into which Spain had entered.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HOWDEN.

* No. 485.

CLASS B.

No. 401.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon,—(Received September 4.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship translation of a note I have received from Señor Pacheco, announcing the capture of a considerable number of Bozal negroes, and I annex the answer which I returned. I thought it right and just to mark the appreciation entertained in England of General Pezuela's worth to the Government which had recalled him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 401.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 26, 1854.

THE Governor and Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has reported to the Government of Her Majesty the Queen my Sovereign, in his communications of the 27th, 29th, and 30th of June last, that three seizures of Bozal negroes have taken place, the total number of them amounting to 647, and that these important seizures are due to the peremptory orders of the aforesaid Captain-General, and to the zeal and efficiency with which these orders have been fulfilled by the authorities of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahía Honda, in which districts the landings respectively took place.

I hasten to bring to your Lordship's knowledge this new fact, which renders patent the decided zeal with which the Slave Trade is being persecuted. Trusting that you will communicate it to your Government as soon as possible, I avail, &c.

(Signed) I. F. PACHECO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 401.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, August 29, 1854.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Excellency's note of the 26th instant, informing me of a considerable capture of Bozal negroes, and I hasten to transmit it to my Government.

The Government of Her Britannic Majesty will receive this information with the greatest pleasure, but without any surprise. The honourable conduct of General Pezuela while he has exercised his command in Cuba, has called for the repeated thanks of England, and has inspired her with a confidence in the authorities of Cuba, which unfortunate and undeniable facts had long suppressed. In leaving the Havana, General Pezuela will leave in England a respectful and grateful memory of his administration, and a hope, I believe a well founded one, that his successors will take him for an example and follow in his path.

I avail, &c

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 402.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 13, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th ultimo, and I have to state that Her Majesty's Government learn with satisfaction the assurance given to your Lordship by General Concha of his intention to act vigorously against the slave-dealers in Cuba. I must however remark that the Marquis de la Pezuela has proved that there is no difficulty in entering upon estates in search of negroes.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 403.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 14, 1854.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 29th ultimo, inclosing copies of correspondence which had passed between yourself and the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs respecting a recent seizure of Bozal negroes by the authorities of Cuba.

And I have in reply to express to your Lordship my entire approval of the letter which you addressed to Señor Pacheco on the 29th ultimo, informing his Excellency of the sense entertained by the people of England of the honourable conduct which has been pursued by the Marquis de la Pezuela, with regard to the suppression of the Slave Trade, during his administration.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 404.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 26, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, giving an account of the capture of the greater portion of a cargo of slaves which had been landed at Bahia Honda, and pointing out the good results of giving rewards for the discovery of Bozal negroes; and I have to observe that the operations described in this despatch prove how much good can be effected by an honest and energetic Captain-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 405.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch † which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting the wreck of a slaver on the Isle of Pines, with the loss of all on board excepting the master, three sailors, and five slaves.

With regard to Mr. Crawford's concluding remark, that the only effectual means of deterring Spanish subjects from engaging in the Slave Trade, would

* No. 499.

† No. 502.

be to declare that trade to be piracy by the law of Spain, it is unnecessary for me to observe to your Lordship that the Spanish Government would do itself the greatest honour, and more than by any other act obtain the sympathy of the whole British nation, if it would pass a law declaring Slave Trade piracy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 406.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1854.

WITH reference to your despatch of 13th April last, inclosing copies of the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March, respecting slavery in Cuba, and to my reply of the 28th of April, I now transmit to you a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office, inclosing a copy of a despatch* from the Governor of British Guiana, in which he gives his opinion as to the manner in which those Decrees may operate to the prejudice of colonists repairing to Cuba from Yucatan. And I have to instruct your Lordship to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the practical operation of these Decrees, and to state, that as Her Majesty's Government are convinced that it was the intention of the Government of Spain to encourage *bond fide* emigration, and not to establish a new form of Slave Trade, they cannot refrain from pointing out the hardship of the Decree as affecting Indian emigrants from Yucatan to Cuba, and suggesting that it may be modified.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 407.

M. Gonzalez to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, September 28, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to bring to the knowledge of his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon, &c., in conformity with the orders which he has received from Her Majesty's Government, and with reference to the Governor-General of the Island of Cuba, the capture of 295 Bozal negroes, which was made at Cayo Levisa, by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bahia Honda, on the 28th of July.

The Undersigned has moreover the honour to inform the Earl of Clarendon that the above-mentioned chief officer of Cuba has suspended Brigadier Don Rafael Lopez Ballasteros, the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio, for having apparently connived at a landing of negroes which was effected on the coast within his jurisdiction; an event which came to light from the fact of a vessel which was suspected to be a slaver having been met with in that locality, with her masts cut away and hanging over the side, which circumstance caused the inquiries to be made which led to the capture of 205 negroes belonging to this disembarkation.

The Undersigned flatters himself that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will see in these acts new proofs of the firmness displayed by the Governor Captain-General of the Island of Cuba in his proceedings against the Slave Trade, and of the resolution of Her Majesty's Government to take care that the Treaties which prohibit that Traffic shall be scrupulously fulfilled.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ANTO. GONZALEZ.

* Inclosures 1 and 2 in No. 260.

No. 408.

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Gonzalez.**Foreign Office, October 4, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 28th ultimo, by Don Antonio Gonzalez, &c., and at the same time to thank him for the communication therein made, of the energetic measures taken by the Captain-General of Cuba against all proceedings in that island tending to the promotion of the Traffic in Slaves.

Her Majesty's Government have on more than one recent occasion had the great satisfaction of conveying to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty the expression of their satisfaction and thanks for the change of system recently introduced in the Island of Cuba, and they trust that an energetic perseverance in that system which so redounds to the honour of Spain will not only prove a signal benefit to the cause of humanity, but put an end to those open infractions of Treaty that endangered the friendly relations between the two countries, which Her Majesty's Government earnestly desire to maintain and to strengthen.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLARENDON.

No. 409.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 21.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, October 11, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a note which I have addressed to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty on the subject of declaring the Slave Trade to be piracy, and I trust it will meet with the approbation of your Lordship.

Inclosure in No. 409.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, October 10, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, has the honour to address himself to his Excellency Don T. F. Pacheco, Minister of State, on a subject not only highly important in itself both as regards Spain and humanity, but on one that interests the country which the Undersigned represents more, perhaps, than any others on which he has addressed the Government of Her Catholic Majesty since he has had the honour of residing at this Court.

His Excellency Señor Pacheco, with his usual intelligence, will not fail to foresee, even from this short preamble, that this question is the Slave Trade, and, with his known integrity, he will not be surprised that the Undersigned is instructed to ask the Spanish Government, now that it is free itself, and that it governs a free people, to brand this abominable Traffic by the name which belongs to it, and to declare it piracy.

After the correspondence of years upon years which has taken place between this Legation and the Department over which Señor Pacheco so worthily presides, on this nefarious Traffic, it is very far from the intention of the Undersigned to take up Señor Pacheco's time, and even to insult his understanding, by entering into any discussion on, in the first place, the iniquity of the Trade, and, secondly, on the means by which Spain is bound to repress it. So anxious is the Undersigned to avoid everything which can lead to a semblance of irritation, that he even willingly abstains from calling to his aid the promise of a law made by Spain which has never been fulfilled.

The Undersigned prefers discarding every allusion to what is over, and he

comes to the enlightened Government of the Duke of Victoria full of hope for the future, and without any animosity for the past.

The Undersigned rests this application on three considerations, and they are so manifest, that to name them is to argue them; he prefers exciting Señor Pacheco's inductions to obtruding his own.

Every civilized nation in Europe has, at this moment, declared the Slave Trade to be piracy. Is it possible that Spain should wish—will even consent—to stand alone on this question, and to persist in so little dignified an insulation?

The feelings of the whole English people, as if springing from one heart, would greet this great act of Spain. Will Spain think it prudent to chill this expectation, and, in times like these, to deaden those feelings which, in the shape of public opinion, direct every English Government in its relations with other Powers?

The Spanish Government has invariably professed its honesty of purpose in its endeavours to suppress the Slave Trade. If that be really the case, and the Undersigned is far from doubting it, what can be the objection on their part to do the only thing which can really give effect to their wishes?

Señor Pacheco will see, that in this short but unusually important communication, the Undersigned has abstained from all declamation as well as all recrimination. He has at once expressed the object of his Government—earnestly, ardently desired—and he rests his case far more on the admirable conduct of General Pezuela than on the disgraceful connivance of General Cañedo.

The Undersigned has some reason to believe that a proposition, in the sense of that he is now making, has already been submitted by an exalted personage to the President of the Council, and the Undersigned, at the instigation of the English Government, of the English Parliament, and of the English public, requests Señor Pacheco to lay this note before the Cabinet of Her Catholic Majesty, confiding in the wisdom and unprejudiced character of its members, and feeling sure that its illustrious President, the Duke of Victory, will take a subject so grave for humanity, so interesting for Europe, and so momentous for England, into his serious and early consideration.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 410.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received October 21.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 15, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of the note which I addressed to Señor Pacheco upon the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba as colonists, under the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March last, which formed the subject of your Lordship's despatch of the 27th of September.*

I also inclose translation of Señor Pacheco's note to me in acknowledgment of my communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 410.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, October 6, 1854.

BY the instructions of Her Majesty's Government I am desired to call your Excellency's attention to the operation of certain Decrees promulgated by Spain on the 22nd of March of this year, bearing on the question of slavery in Cuba, as it relates to colonists repairing to that island from Yucatan, and I take the liberty of making the following observations.

* No. 406.

The constitution of the Mexican Republic affects to repudiate slavery altogether, but practically it is in full operation as regards the mutual relations of the Blancos, or Mexicans, and the Indians inhabiting the State. The Mexicans have generally contrived to get the Indians into debt to them, and they have established a law, that an Indian indebted to a Mexican must work for him until the debt is liquidated. During this servitude, the Mexican provides him with food and clothing for payment; and as he fixes the prices, and also keeps the account, it is not very surprising that the Indian, during his whole life, is never able to redeem himself from bondage; nor does the obligation cease here, but the children are compelled to take up the debt of their father. The oppressive operation of this law, and other cruelties exercised by the Mexicans, brought about, some years since, a revolt of the Indians, which the former have never been able to subdue, and which has grown into a civil war, characterized by much ferocity on both sides. They have lately attempted to make peace, but both really desire nothing less than the extermination of their rivals; and the correspondence in the Colonial Office will show that the authorities have more than once exported Indians forcibly to Cuba.

It is only too evident that where such feelings exist between the Government and the inhabitants of the country from which the colonists are to be sent to Cuba, the Decree of Her Catholic Majesty affords no sort of protection or guarantee against fraud and violence of every description. It is not in the smallest degree probable that a Mexican Yucateco will emigrate to Cuba on such terms. The emigrants will all be Indians, a fact of which I believe the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to be perfectly aware. The Vth Article of the 2nd Decree provides that the contracts are to be in the language of the colonist, and *visé* by the Spanish Consul; but the Indians are most illiterate, and would rarely be able, even if they were allowed an opportunity, to read the agreements.

With contracts made under such circumstances, what is there to prevent this revivification, as it were, of slavery under this Decree, more especially under the XIXth and five following Articles of it? The Decree, moreover, appears to be silent as to any limitation of the period for which these contracts may remain in force; but it may be fairly presumed that they are to be of a very extended character, from the fact that the XXIIInd Article, as a great boon, releases a child born during his mother's contract from its operation, on completing eighteen years of age, although the mother may remain in a state of bondage. There are many other Articles in this Decree which, in the absence of *bond fide* protection, at least at the time of the execution of the contracts, must reduce the colonists to a state of slavery.

Now, Her Britannic Majesty's Government being convinced that it was the intention of the Government of Spain to encourage *bond fide* emigration, and not to establish a new form of Slave Trade, they cannot refrain from pointing out the hardship of the Decree as affecting Indian emigrants from Yucatan to Cuba, and suggesting that this Decree may be modified by the intelligence and integrity of the Spanish Government, in order that frauds so likely to be committed may be effectually prevented.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 410.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, October 11, 1854.

UNDER this day's date, I have transmitted to the General Colonial Office a copy of your Lordship's note of the 6th instant, in which you are pleased to make some observations upon the Decrees relative to Slavery in the Island of Cuba, and to the importation of emigrant labourers into that colony; and as soon as I receive an answer, I will hasten to communicate it to your Lordship.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) I. F. PACHECO.

No. 411.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 11th instant, and I have in reply to inform you that I entirely approve the letter which you addressed, on the 10th instant, to Señor Pacheco, urging upon the Spanish Government the enactment of a law declaring Slave Trade to be piracy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 412.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant, with its inclosures, and I have in reply to inform you that I approve the note which your Lordship addressed to Señor Pacheco on the 6th instant, respecting the importation of Yucatan Indians into Cuba as colonists, under the Spanish Decrees of the 22nd of March last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 413.

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

(Extract.)

Madrid, October 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship translation of the note I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, in answer to the one in which I earnestly requested the Spanish Government to declare the Slave Trade piracy.

Inclosure 1 in No. 413.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, October 27, 1854.

THE Undersigned, Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has submitted to the deliberation of the Spanish Government the note which his Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty has been pleased to address to him, under date of the 10th instant, proposing, in the name of his Government, that the Slave Trade be declared to be piracy.

The high importance which, according to Lord Howden's note, England attaches to this question, would have been a sufficient motive to induce the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to devote to it their most assiduous and preferent attention; but it was for them, moreover, a duty to do so, on account of the great importance which, in the present state of the Island of Cuba, belong to any measure which may, in any respect whatever, affect the interests or even the prejudices of its inhabitants.

The Undersigned concurs with the British Minister in thinking, that for the discussion of the affair alluded to in his note of the 10th instant, it is not necessary to enter into a retrospective examination of the long and sometimes tedious correspondence which, during many years, has passed between this Foreign Office and the Legation now so worthily represented by his Excellency Lord

Howden, on the subject of the Slave Trade. This Traffic has been, and continues to be, reprobated by Her Majesty's Government with the same intensity as that with which it is condemned by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty: both Governments, in proportion to their respective forces and means of action, persecute it and endeavour to extinguish it; and by so doing, they both obey, not only the eternal principles of humanity and right, but also the international Treaties and the peculiar laws of their respective countries. So far, therefore, from there being in this any cause or motive for recrimination, there is a perfect identity in the views and the object of both Governments.

The Undersigned, confining himself, therefore, to the essential point aimed at in Lord Howden's note—the assimilation of the Slave Trade to piracy—has to declare to his Excellency, with the most profound regret, that Her Catholic Majesty's Government thinks, that under the present circumstances of Cuba, it is not expedient to make the aforesaid assimilation without entering now into the question as to whether, even under other circumstances, it would be advisable to accede to it.

The observations which his Excellency the British Minister points out in support of that assimilation, are three in number.

The first is, that every civilized nation in Europe has already declared the Slave Trade to be piracy.

The Undersigned might enumerate the names of several European States which have made no such declaration, and to which he thinks, the appellation of civilized nations, cannot, nevertheless, be disputed; but he thinks, that it will be sufficient to quote the French and the Danish nations, which are both Colonial Powers, to which it cannot be presumed that Lord Howden would refuse to give that appellation, and in the laws of which, the Undersigned has not, however, found the declaration in question.

The second observation adduced by the British Minister is, that it would not be expedient, at this moment, to chill the expectation of the English people, who would hail with a unanimous greeting the act which is requested from the Spanish Government.

There is nothing which Her Catholic Majesty's Government more anxiously desires than to deserve the adhesion and applause of Great Britain, whose friendship they hold in high consideration and esteem; but the public opinion of that great nation is too enlightened not to conceive the duties which circumstances and prudence impose upon Governments; and the English nation is animated with too high a sense of patriotism not to respect the resolutions of friendly Governments which are dictated by the same noble feeling.

Finally, his Excellency the British Minister states, that if Her Catholic Majesty's Government is so sincerely anxious, as it has always professed, and as Lord Howden believes, to extinguish the Slave Trade, what can be the objection on their part to adopt the only efficient measure which can really give effect to their wishes?

The reply to this question will be at the same time the explanation of the reasons why Her Catholic Majesty's Government thinks that it is not in its power on the present occasion to comply with the wishes of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

The British Government cannot but be well aware of the dangers by which the Spanish Antilles are threatened at this moment. The Island of Cuba, which has been already invaded several times by parties of filibustiers conspiring against the Spanish domination, is the most coveted prize aimed at by the ambitious agitators who have hoisted as their banner the indefinite annexation of territories to the American Confederation. A crusade against Cuba has been raised in the press and in the clubs of the United States, and it has even sometimes found an echo in the American Chambers themselves. The contemplated acquisition of Cuba has given occasion to fraudulent speculations, in which the gross credulity of many has been turned into profit; finally, the Cuban question has been made use of as a lever to excite public opinion on behalf of certain political parties.

It is not necessary to state here again the sacrifices which such a state of things has imposed upon the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, nor the strenuous efforts which this Government is making for the proper defence of that island. But at the same time that it resorts to these material means, which are indispensable to that purpose, and imposed on it as a duty, Her Catholic

Majesty's Government is well aware that it must principally look for the safety of Cuba in the attachment and loyalty of its inhabitants towards the mother country. In order to keep alive and to foster these feelings amongst them, the Government devotes its especial care to the improvement of the administration of justice, as well as of the civil and economical laws; and for the attainment of this object it is its bounden duty to consult all interests, and not to alarm them with ill-meditated measures.

Now then, one of the most dangerous arms which have been made use of by those who conspire against the Spanish domination in Cuba, is the supposition that Her Catholic Majesty's Government entertains the project of Africanizing that island, that is to say, of converting it into a new Santo Domingo, by the emancipation of the slaves, which would produce the ruin of the white race and of the creoles, and the preponderance of the black race. However absurd this idea may be, it has, nevertheless, been spread about for the purpose of creating alarm amongst the owners of slaves, endeavouring, at the same time, to persuade them that the only means of avoiding the impending danger is to throw themselves into the arms of the United States, which would energetically defend the institution of slavery.

The enlightened mind of the British Government and of their worthy Representative at this Court, renders it superfluous for the Undersigned to enter into further details respecting a question which is already well known to them. But it will not be unseasonable to state here, that the disposition of the owners of slaves to view with some apprehension certain measures relative to slavery and to the Slave Trade, is so positive, that they have felt great discontent at some of those adopted by General Pezuela, although the real object thereof was only to prevent, in fulfilment of his instructions, the continuation of the Slave Trade.

Her Catholic Majesty's Government on stating, with the frankness and loyalty inherent to its intentions, and with its confidence in that of the British Government, the reasons which prevent them, to their deep regret, from acceding to the proposed assimilation, are far from harbouring the intention of slackening in the slightest degree the severity with which the Slave Trade is now persecuted. The numerous seizures of negroes which have been made during the last few months, are a proof that the existing laws are sufficient to attain that object; and if reasons, well known to everybody, have prevented its total extinction, the loyalty of the Government and the firmness of their functionaries are a guarantee of the continuation of the persecution of the Slave Trade, and of its being carried as far as possible.

The Undersigned has endeavoured to reply to the note of the British Minister with the same moderation which has been employed by his Excellency; he has avoided, like his Excellency, mentioning anything which might give rise to recrimination; and he has not even endeavoured to justify the Spanish Government with regard to the fault which is attributed to it in not having promulgated a law, as it had promised to do, because the Undersigned is not aware of any other law, relative to this matter, having been promised by Spain, than the one which was promulgated in 1845, whereby certain penalties were imposed on slave-dealers. The Undersigned's object has only been to state, with perfect sincerity, the reasons which make him refrain from acceding to the wishes expressed in Lord Howden's note; and he thinks that he has done so in a manner which cannot but be appreciated by his Excellency's enlightened judgment.

Her Catholic Majesty's Government confidently expects that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will do justice to the uprightness of its intentions; that they will acknowledge the force of the considerations which are the prompters of its conduct; and that they will feel convinced that these considerations are in no way opposed to the sincere desire by which it is animated of drawing more and more closer its friendly relations with the Government of Great Britain.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

I. F. PACHECO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 413.

Lord Howden to Señor Pacheco.

Sir,

Madrid, October 29, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's note, containing the reasons which, in the estimation of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, prevent them from acceding to the request which I made, and which I did not exaggerate in saying was the request of the people of England, to declare the Slave Trade piracy.

I shall transmit this answer to my Government, deeply regretting that such has been the conclusion to which the Spanish Government have thought it their duty to arrive.

I shall confine myself at this moment to simply observing, that the prominent argument put forth by your Excellency, that the supposed Africanisation of the Island of Cuba—a charge, as your Excellency says, falsely imputed, but strenuously urged, by the enemies of Spain—would, in my comprehension, be not only not corroborated, but, on the contrary, would be most victoriously refuted by the adoption of the measure which I so earnestly solicited, and by preventing in the most stringent manner, and under the severest penalties, the introduction of any more Africans.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 414.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the answer which you returned to Señor Pacheco's note, stating that in the present position of Affairs in Cuba, the Spanish Government cannot assent to the request of Her Majesty's Government that Spain should declare the Slave Trade to be piracy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 415.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, giving an account of an interview which he had with his Excellency General Concha on the subject of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 514.

No. 416.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch* and of its inclosures which I have received from Mr. Lindegren, Her Majesty's Consul in the Island of Porto Rico, respecting the case of a British subject, named Mary Gordon, who it appears was kidnapped several years ago from St. Kitt's, and has been held as a slave by a proprietor of Porto Rico, named Antonio Guadalupe Colon.

Your Lordship will represent this woman's case to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and you will state, that although the tribunal of Royal Audiencia has not given a favourable decision thereupon, yet the bill of sale under which M. Colon claims to hold her as his slave is so entirely defective in point of law, and the evidence brought forward by Mr. Lindegren in support of her claim to freedom is so conclusive, that it would be an act of justice as well as of mercy on the part of the Spanish Government, to order that Mary Gordon, her children and grandchildren, should be emancipated from slavery.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 417.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 5, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana, stating that General Concha's endeavours to put down the Slave Trade are not likely to produce much effect so long as it is generally understood, as is now the case in Cuba, that except under circumstances of the strongest suspicion, the Government officers will not visit the estates of planters to search for newly imported negroes, or for slaves exceeding the number of those registered as belonging to the estate.

Her Majesty's Government are far from wishing to make any complaint against General Concha, of whose honest intentions they see no reason to doubt, but I have to instruct your Lordship to take an opportunity of drawing the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the above statement as a proof that it is necessary, for the effectual suppression of the Cuba Slave Trade, that the Spanish Government should propose to the Cortes the enactment of a stringent law making the Slave Trade piracy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 418.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 6, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch‡ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, &c., referring to his despatch of the 3rd October, a copy of which was transmitted to you in my despatch of the 15th ultimo,§ and stating that the measures taken by General

* No. 560.

† No. 525.

‡ No. 526.

§ No. 415.

Concha for the apprehension of the 500 Bozal negroes recently landed near Cabañas, had failed of success, owing to the connivance of the authorities of that place.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 419.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 1, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, translation of a note which I have just received from Señor Pacheco, communicating to me the efforts making by the Spanish Government to put an end to the Slave Trade, and stating, that since the 26th of August last, 421 Bozal negroes had been captured by the authorities of the Island of Cuba.

It is my intention this day to thank Her Catholic Majesty's Government for this announcement, and to express the satisfaction that will be felt by that of Her Majesty at these proofs of the energetic cooperation of the Governor of Cuba in the cause of humanity and in the accomplishment of national faith.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 419.

Señor Pacheco to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, November 28, 1854.

SUBSEQUENTLY to the important seizures of Bozal negroes mentioned in my note of the 26th of August last, a further seizure of 116 Bozal negroes has taken place in the district of Trinidad (Island of Cuba), according to the information contained in a communication from the Captain-General of the aforesaid Colony, dated the 11th of July last, with the remarkable circumstance that, notwithstanding this result which relieved the functionaries of the districts wherein the seizures took place from responsibility, yet the superior authority of the island, who was indefatigable in his efforts for the extinction of the Slave Trade, acted with such activity and ability that he succeeded in detecting some facts whereupon he determined to suspend from their respective commands the Governors of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahia Honda, as also their legal counsellors and he directed that the proper trial should be instituted; in consequence whereof, Don Salvador Castro, Don Mariano Borrell, and Don Pedro Choperena, the agents and participators of the landings of slaves which had taken place, were imprisoned: the trial in question is still pending; but one of its immediate consequences, according to a report from the Captain-General dated the 4th August last, has been the seizure of 305 Bozal negroes, belonging to the cargo which was landed in the aforesaid district of Trinidad.

It appears, therefore, that subsequently to the seizures alluded to in my aforesaid note, 421 Bozal negroes more have fallen into the hands of the superior authority of the Island of Cuba; and I trust that the Government of which your Lordship is the worthy Representative, will learn with satisfaction the repeated proofs which both Her Majesty's Government and the Captain-General of Cuba are giving of the strenuous efforts they are making for the strict fulfilment of the stipulations of the Treaty of 1835.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) I. F. PACHECO.

No. 420.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 7, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, containing remarks on the inadequacy of the law, as at present administered in that island, for the prevention of Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 421.

M. Gonzalez to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, December 6, 1854.

THE Undersigned has the honour to communicate to his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon a note addressed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State to the Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty at the Court of Madrid, under date of the 28th November last, relative to fresh seizures of Bozal negroes in the Island of Cuba, and to the suspension from their respective posts of several Governors of districts who have appeared remiss in the fulfilment of their duties with regard to the repression of the Slave Trade. The substance of that note is as follows:—

“Since the occurrence of the important seizures of Bozal negroes referred to in my note of the 26th August last, 116 more have been captured in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, Island of Cuba, as appears from a letter from the Captain-General of that Colonial Province, dated the 11th of July last, with this circumstance worthy of remark,—that in spite of these results, which sheltered from responsibility the authorities in whose districts the seizures were effected, the superior authority of the island, indefatigable in his determination to extinguish the Traffic in Slaves, proceeded with such activity and judgment, that he succeeded in discovering certain facts which induced him to suspend from their respective commands the Governors of Trinidad, Sancti Spiritu, and Bahia Honda, the same measure being adopted with regard to their assessors, and the proper proceedings being instituted, Don Salvador Castor, Don Mariano Borrel, and Don Pedro Choperena, agents and participators in the landings referred to, were committed to prison.

“The proceedings instituted in the case in question have not yet terminated; however, as the Captain-General states, under date of the 4th of August last, a further capture has been effected of 305 Bozal negroes belonging to the landing in the above-mentioned jurisdiction of Trinidad.

“It follows then, that subsequently to the seizure to which my note before alluded to refers, 421 Bozal negroes have fallen into the power of the authorities of the Island of Cuba; and I flatter myself that the Government which your Excellency worthily represents, will see with satisfaction the repeated proofs which the Government of Her Majesty, as well as the Captain-General of the said island, are giving of the determination with which they endeavour to fulfil the stipulations of the Treaty of 1835.”

The Undersigned might have omitted this communication, as the Earl of Clarendon is doubtless already informed of the document in question; however, he does not consider it superfluous to repeat, on this occasion, the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government see the proceedings of the Captain-General of Cuba, which are so much in accordance with the views and wishes of Her Majesty's Government for at once putting an end to the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO GONZALEZ.

No. 422.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 9, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 1st instant, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Spanish Foreign Office, stating that between the 11th of July and the 4th of August last the authorities of Cuba had taken possession of 421 newly-landed negroes. Your Lordship has been informed by my despatches of the 14th and 26th September, and by the despatches from Mr. Crawford of the 18th of July and 18th of August, copies of which were inclosed therein, that these acts of the Captain-General Pezuela were at the time communicated to, and duly appreciated by, Her Majesty's Government.

I approve of your intention to express to Her Catholic Majesty's Government the satisfaction afforded to Her Majesty's Government by those proofs of the energetic cooperation of the Governor of Cuba in the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I have to instruct your Lordship to add, whenever you may have a suitable opportunity of doing so, that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that this praiseworthy example will be followed by the present Captain-General of Cuba.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 423

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Gonzalez.**Foreign Office, December 12, 1855.*

THE Undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 6th instant by Don Antonio Gonzalez, communicating to the Undersigned a copy of a letter dated the 28th ultimo, in which the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs informed Lord Howden, that between the 11th of July and the 4th of August last, the Captain-General of Cuba had not only taken measures which led to the seizure of 421 newly-imported Africans, but had also suspended and brought to trial four Lieutenant-Governors, and had imprisoned three other persons, all of whom were more or less concerned in the landing of those Africans.

The Undersigned, in acknowledging with many thanks this obliging and important communication from Señor Gonzalez, begs leave to acquaint him that these vigorous proceedings of the Marquis de la Pezuela were at the time of their adoption duly reported to Her Majesty's Government by the British Consul-General at Havana, and were made known to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, who has informed the Undersigned, that on receipt of the above-mentioned letter from the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, he was about to express to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty the satisfaction afforded to Her Majesty's Government by those proofs of the energetic cooperation of the Governor of Cuba in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Undersigned has to add, that he has hastened to approve this intention of Lord Howden, and has instructed him to take a suitable opportunity of stating to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government confidently trust that the praiseworthy example of the late Captain-General of Cuba will be followed by his successor.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 424.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 17.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 10, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith, translations of a note and its inclosures which I have just received from Señor Luzuriaga, acquainting me with the capture of 643 Bozal negroes, 103 of which formed the cargo of the schooner "*Peerless*," also captured, and 145 that of the "*Esperanza*," set fire to after the landing of the negroes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 No. 424.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 7, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the two inclosed copies of the communications from the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, dated the 3rd of October last, from which it appears that 643 Bozal negroes have been seized belonging, namely, 103 to the cargo of the schooner "*Peerless*," which was also captured, and 145 to the cargo of the schooner "*Esperanza*," which was burnt, after having landed her negroes.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 424.

The Captain-General of Cuba to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

IN virtue of the orders issued by this Government in fulfilment of those of Her Majesty, relative to the extinction of the Slave Trade, during the last days of my predecessor's command, the schooner "*Peerless*," and her cargo of 103 Bozal negroes, which had been landed near the mouth of the river Manimani, in the district of Laz Pozas and Bahia Honda, were seized. On the beach of Rosario another batch of 145 negroes were seized, belonging to the schooner "*Esperanza*," which after having landed her cargo on the coasts of the Island of Pines, was burnt. In this same Island of Pines a further seizure was made of 7 negroes belonging to the aforesaid vessel; and a further one of 242 negroes belonging to another expedition. Finally, the Second Alcalde of the city of Puerto Principe is now instituting judicial proceedings for the investigation of a landing of 150 Bozal negroes, which is reported to have taken place on the coast of Nuevitas, according to the communications which I have received from that functionary, dated the 21st and 23rd ultimo, and of these proceedings, as well as of those relative to the above-mentioned seizures, the investigations whereof are still going on, I will transmit to your Excellency in due time the proper copies, and I will send a duplicate thereof to the Audiencia for the continuation of the trials, in conformity with the penal law on this matter.

God preserve, &c.

Inclosure 3 in No. 424.

The Captain-General of Cuba to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

BESIDES the seizures of Bozal negroes which have taken place during the last days of my predecessor's command, and in addition to those I report to your Excellency under this day's date, another seizure of 73 Bozal negroes has just taken place on the coasts of Dominica, district of Quiebrahacha, of the jurisdiction of Mariel. From the summary investigation instituted, according to my instructions, by the Lieutenant-Governor, it appears that this functionary having heard that a suspicious vessel had been seen in those waters, he issued the proper orders for the seizure of the negroes in case that their landing should be attempted, and the result was the seizure of 61 negroes early in the morning of the 26th ultimo, and the subsequent capture of 12 more, who were very likely the remainder of that expedition, as is proved by the depositions of the negroes themselves, who declared that the vessel they came in is very small, and was in a leaky state; that when she sailed from Africa the crew was composed of 5 white men, two of whom died during the voyage, and that the original number of negroes on board was only 90, of whom 14 died. As to the vessel in question, there are reasons for believing, that her destination was not that of the coast where the landing took place, but that the bad state of her hull, and the want of provisions and water, compelled her to precipitate the landing of her cargo.

God preserve, &c.

No. 425.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received December 19.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, December 13, 1854.

MR. SOULE mentioned to me as a fact well known in the States, that there had been an arrangement between the English and Spanish Governments, and with General Pezuela, as their organ, to introduce as many free negroes as possible into the Island of Cuba, and that immense numbers had been introduced in this manner.

Mr. Soulé continued to say, that this arrangement had given a surprising impetus to the Slave Trade—a traffic odious to the inhabitants of the United States: for that when the slave-dealers were fortunate in landing their cargoes unseen, the negroes were sold as slaves; when the negroes were openly apprehended, the slave-dealers averred that they were introduced as colonists.

Mr. Soulé ended by declaring that this invasion of negroes was the cause producing the greatest excitement in the United States, and, being regarded as a measure of impending danger, it awakened a wide feeling that the annexation of Cuba was absolutely necessary for the peaceful existence of the Southern States of the Union.

As I think that this systematic introduction of negroes on an enormous scale by the advice and with the assistance of England could hardly have been organized without my knowledge, and even without my agency, and as, moreover, I do not believe that it exists, and as the assumption serves, or will serve, for an excuse on which an attack of Cuba by the filibustiers of the United States may turn, I think it expedient to submit to your Lordship whether it might not be well to take some steps at Washington in order to remove an idea which, on the measure of my knowledge, I confidently believe to be erroneous.

M. Comyn to the Earl of Clarendon.

(Translation.)

Spanish Legation, December 20, 1854.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acquaint his Excellency the Earl of Clarendon of the following fresh captures of negroes made during the last days of the recent administration of General the Marquis de la Pezuela.

The schooner "*Peerless*," and her cargo of 103 Bozal negroes, landed near the mouth of the River Manimani, in the Department of Pozas, and in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda.

One hundred and five Bozal negroes, belonging to the schooner "*Esperanza*," which, having landed her cargo on the Isle of Pines, was set fire to. In this island were taken, moreover, 7 others coming from the "*Esperanza*," and 242 belonging to another expedition.

Seventy-three Bozal negroes on the coast of Dominica, in the Department of Quiebrahacha, and in the jurisdiction of Mariel.

The Undersigned fulfils with pleasure the orders which he has received from Her Majesty's Government, to communicate these facts to the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

(Signed) JUAN F. COMYN.

No. 427.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 13th instant, stating that Mr. Soulé, the American Minister at Madrid, has mentioned to you as a fact well known in the United States, that an arrangement had been made between the British and Spanish Governments, and with General Pezuela as their organ, the object of which is to introduce as many free negroes as possible into the Island of Cuba, and that immense numbers had been introduced in this manner.

Your Lordship will find on referring to page 841, Class B of the Slave Trade Papers, laid before Parliament last session, that I had occasion in March last to instruct Her Majesty's Minister at Washington to contradict a similar insidious invention, respecting the alleged intentions of Great Britain with regard to Cuba, and I shall again write to Mr. Crampton upon the subject of your despatch of the 13th instant.

You will in the meantime inform Mr. Soulé, that there is not the shadow of a foundation for the statement which he has repeated to you; and that those who say that an arrangement has been made between the British and Spanish Governments to introduce as many free negroes as possible into Cuba, and that immense numbers have been introduced in that manner, are guilty of wilful and deliberate falsehood. It is equally untrue, as far as Her Majesty's Government is aware, that any slave-dealer has on any occasion, when slaves have been captured, averred that they were introduced as colonists.

Mr. Soulé appears to have been grievously practised upon by designing persons who have fabricated this idle story as a pretext for unlawful aggression against the territory of a friendly Power, but it may serve to undeceive him if he will consider in what quarter the free negroes exist from whence such immense numbers have been drawn for the colonization of Cuba, and whether it is likely that such negroes, being free, would voluntarily embark and permit themselves to be packed in a slave-ship in order to go to Cuba. But if such negroes are not free, and are purchased for the sake of sending them to Cuba, then Her Majesty's Government must have suddenly become wholesale slave-dealers; and Mr. Soulé, I apprehend, can hardly have brought himself to believe in that fact.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 428.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1854.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of a letter and of its inclosures from Señor Luzuriaga, announcing that it appears by despatches of the 3rd of October from the Captain-General of Cuba that the authorities of that island had captured 643 newly-imported negroes.

I have to instruct your Lordship to thank Señor Luzuriaga for this communication, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have received it with much satisfaction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 429.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 27, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a copy of a Decree published by General Concha on the 17th of November, the principal feature of which is, that it repeals the Bando issued by his predecessor on the 3rd of May last, whereby the Cuban authorities were empowered to enter estates suspected of harbouring newly imported Africans; to muster their slaves according to lists to be made for that purpose, and to liberate any fraudulently introduced Bozal negroes.

I inclose herewith a copy of the Bando of May 3, † and I have to instruct your Lordship to state to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that, although Her Majesty's Government do not doubt the sincerity and good intentions of General Concha, yet they think that the provisions contained in the Bando of the 3rd of May were well calculated to put down the Slave Trade, and that on the contrary the measures now substituted for those provisions by General Concha will be easily evaded by both planters and slave-dealers.

And you will say, that for these reasons Her Majesty's Government much regret that the Bando of the 3rd of May should have been revoked, and that they earnestly recommend that it should be again put in force.

Her Majesty's Government cannot suppose that there exists on the part of the Spanish Government any intention to repeal or nullify the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, 1854, which provided for the general registration of slaves in Cuba; I have however to instruct your Lordship to ask the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs what measures have been taken in order to carry that Decree into effect.

You will at the same time point out to his Excellency, that even if General Concha considers it necessary to abstain from following the newly imported Africans to the estates where they may be concealed, and from arresting them at once, yet the IInd and IIIrd Articles of the Bando of May 3, whereby it is provided that every year after the crop is gathered, lists of the slaves on every estate should be made out and delivered to the authorities, and that unregistered negroes should be liberated, seem to be drawn up in the spirit of the Royal Decree of the 22nd of March, and to be well calculated to prevent the importation of slaves without violating any right of property.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 530.

† Inclosure in No. 475.

No. 430.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 28, 1854.

I TRANSMIT herewith a copy of a despatch* from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, reporting the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cochinos and at Punta Nuevas of three cargoes of Africans amounting in all to about 1,800.

And I have to instruct your Lordship to point out to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, that it is most probable that owing to the repeal of the Marquis de la Pezuela's Bando of the 3rd of May, all these Africans will have been safely introduced into the neighbouring estates, and that they have been made slaves beyond the reach of General Concha's Decree of the 17th of November.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 431.

*The Earl of Clarendon to M. Comyn.**Foreign Office, December 28, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note addressed to him on the 20th instant, by M. Comyn, &c., in which he announces the capture by the authorities of Cuba of 570 Bozal negroes; and the Undersigned begs to thank M. Comyn for this communication, which has been received with much satisfaction by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 432.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received January 6, 1855.)

(Extract.)

Madrid, December 28, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to inclose to your Lordship, copy of a note which I addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of declaring the Slave Trade piracy.

Inclosure in No. 432.

*Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga.**Madrid, December 23, 1854.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour of addressing the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Her Catholic Majesty, on a subject which England takes greatly to heart, which is deeply interesting to the European reputation of Spain, and to which he earnestly invites the attentive consideration of Señor Luzuriaga and the Spanish Government.

* No. 532.

The Undersigned has been instructed by his Government to submit to Señor Luzuriaga a series of cases in which the endeavours of the Captain-General of Cuba—endeavours thoroughly honest in the estimation of the British Government—have been rendered nugatory by the inadequacy of the law in Cuba to repress the universally branded Traffic in Slaves. It is painful to England to see that good intentions are thus neutralized; it must be indescribably painful to an honest and energetic Captain-General to find that he is unable to carry out his purposes.

The Undersigned, who from the first moment of his arrival here has endeavoured to avoid or to allay every cause of irritation between his Legation and the Department now so worthily occupied by your Excellency, pauses even in the execution of his duty and forbears to send to your Excellency any matter belonging to an irritating subject, one which he is anxious to keep back so long as any reasonable hope exists that all repetition of past recriminations may be avoided.

The Undersigned, encouraged by the new era opened for Spain, full of confidence in the liberal, enlightened, and humane members of the present Government, men already known to Europe and who would fitly associate their name and their fame with posterity to a great and good act.

The Undersigned speaking as the servant of the British people to the servant of another people which may one day be as prosperous and as free, earnestly, anxiously asks the liberal Government of that regenerated people to declare the Slave Trade piracy.

The Undersigned considers that it would be most unbecoming in him to point out to the superior intelligence of Señor Luzuriaga the rare facilities of the moment, when the Cortes themselves have openly expressed their abhorrence of slavery, and when the prevention of the iniquitous trade can be twisted into no relation whatever with the existing rights of property, a subject on which the deputies of the nation are naturally and justly susceptible, but the Undersigned is unalterably convinced that no cordial and permanent and indissoluble good understanding can exist between Spain and England, so long as the law in Cuba remains as it is; and it is on this ground that he addresses Señor Luzuriaga in the language of the sincerest friendship. He wishes most particularly to state in conclusion, that if Señor Luzuriaga and the Spanish Government agree to a demand which would fill England with joy from one end of it to the other, the Undersigned requests to be allowed immediately to withdraw this note, that not a vestige may remain of his having appeared to urge upon Señor Luzuriaga so grand, and brilliant, and happy a measure; and that the entire honour, as most surely due, should be awarded by the whole world, solely to the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, and to the illustrious Minister who initiated so righteous, so holy an act.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 433.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 6, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th of December, I transmit to your Lordship herewith for your information, a copy of a despatch* from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, respecting the landing of Bozal negroes in different parts of that island, and the insufficiency of the measures taken there for the prevention of such importations.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 536.

No. 434.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of 15th of November last,* respecting the case of Mary Gordon, a native of St. Kitts, who is held in slavery by a planter of the Island of Porto Rico, I transmit herewith a copy of a despatch† which I have received from Consul Lindegren, inclosing copies of further correspondence upon this case, which has passed between him and the Governor of Porto Rico, and I have to instruct your Lordship to call the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the arguments contained in Mr. Lindegren's letter to the Governor of the 30th of November last.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 435.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 15, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith copies of a despatch,‡ and of its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Doyle, Her Majesty's Minister in Mexico, respecting a remonstrance which he has addressed to the Mexican Government, in order, if possible to defeat a disgraceful scheme which it appears had been agreed upon between a Mexican officer named Jimenez, and the house of Goicoria and Co., of Havana, who had engaged to furnish a body of two hundred armed men and officers, in order to assist in making war upon the Indians of Yucatan, on condition that Messrs. Goicoria and Co. should be enabled to send to Cuba, for their use, any prisoners taken in that war, on payment of the sum of fifteen dollars for each prisoner.

I have directed Mr. Doyle to inform the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government have entirely approved the steps taken by him to counteract this project; and I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, the substance of Mr. Doyle's despatch, and to express to his Excellency the confident hope of Her Majesty's Government, that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will immediately send orders to the Captain-General of Cuba, directing him to use every exertion in his power in order to prevent the execution of such a nefarious undertaking, which, if allowed to be carried out in Cuba, can only lead to a wholesale extermination of the unfortunate aboriginal race of Yucatan.

You will at the same time observe to Señor Luzuriaga, that if the inhabitants of Cuba should be permitted with impunity to carry on a private warfare of this kind in a neighbouring State, the freebooters of the United States may point to such an example as justifying their projects for the invasion of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 416.

† No. 562.

‡ No. 264.

No. 436.

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

(Extract.)

Madrid, January 12, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship translation of a note I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of declaring the penalties of slave-dealing to be similar to those for piracy. Your Lordship will see that no step has hitherto been made so far. I also adjoin copy of my answer, which I trust will meet your Lordship's approbation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 436.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

Madrid, January 8, 1855.

THE Undersigned, Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has made himself acquainted with, and has communicated to Her Majesty's Government, the note which, under date of the 23rd of December last, has been addressed to him by his Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty, requesting that the Slave Trade be declared piracy.

The importance which Great Britain attaches to this declaration, the persistency with which she has solicited it, at different epochs, from the Queen's Government, the feelings of friendship and consideration towards Spain so warmly expressed in Lord Howden's note, and even the considerate proposition contained at the end of that note—all these circumstances would increase, were it possible, the constant desire by which Her Majesty's Government is animated of complying with the wishes of that of Her Britannic Majesty, with which it is united by such close ties as those of old friendship, of political sympathy, and of common interest.

But the enlightened patriotism of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister will undoubtedly take into consideration that, whenever a Government finds itself invited to make so important an alteration in its legislation, it is its unavoidable duty, before so doing, to acquire the certain conviction that such alteration will not essentially injure legitimate and respectable interests.

The conviction that the declaration of the Slave Trade to be piracy would cause a pernicious effect in the Spanish Antilles, and perhaps the fear that this declaration might possibly not be adjusted to the principles by which the punishment of crimes is regulated, according to the different nature thereof, made the preceding Cabinets shrink from adopting the measure. The Cabinet which is now vested with Her Majesty's confidence, prompted by the most sincere and ardent wish of seeing its relations with the Government of Great Britain on a close and cordial footing, is willing to examine again whether the aforesaid conviction was a well-founded one. The Spanish Cabinet does, therefore, not reject the request set forth by Her Britannic Majesty's Government; it only defers its decision thereupon until it has collected the necessary data in order to ascertain whether it will be possible for it to make the declaration in question, without putting in jeopardy the sacred interests which are intrusted to its loyalty.

A delay founded upon such a consideration, cannot but meet with the approval of Her Britannic Majesty's Government. The Government of Her Catholic Majesty, therefore, confidently trusts that the ties by which both Governments are united, so far from being weakened, in the meantime will acquire, if possible, greater strength and solidity.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 436.

Lord Howden to Señor Luzuriaga.

Madrid, January 11, 1855.

THE Undersigned, &c., presents his respectful and cordial compliments to Her Catholic Majesty's First Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and loses not a moment in acknowledging the receipt, this evening, of his Excellency's note of the 8th instant, and of thanking him sincerely for it. The Undersigned does not hesitate to say, that in the many years he has been at this Court, he has not received a communication from Her Catholic Majesty's Foreign Office which has given him more pleasure.

Señor Luzuriaga rightly judges that neither the Undersigned nor the Government which employs him, can have the slightest wish to urge the Spanish people, for whom both have so sincere a respect and affection, to do any thing precipitately that can hurt their honour, their safety, or their interest. The Undersigned, speaking in the name of his Government, and fully trusting in the friendly assurances of Señor Luzuriaga, will wait with patience, because he waits with confidence, and he willingly leaves in the hands of his Excellency the entreaty of England, the cause of humanity, and the approbation of the world.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

No. 437.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith a printed translation of the Decree which was issued by the Queen of Portugal, on the 25th of July, 1842, declaring the crime of Trading in Slaves to be piracy in the kingdom of Portugal and its dominions.

I inclose also a translation of the Decree of the 10th of December, 1836, therein referred to, and I have to instruct your Lordship in any way you may think expedient to call the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Decree of July 1842, and to express a hope that the Spanish Government will not remain behind the Portuguese Government in a measure of humanity and justice.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 438.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

WITH reference to Mr. Otway's despatch of the 4th July, 1854, and to previous correspondence respecting the Spanish vessel "*Paquita*," which sailed from the Havana for London, in April last year, with the intention, as was supposed, of being eventually employed in the Slave Trade, I have to inform your Lordship that I requested the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury to instruct the Board of Customs to cause the proceedings of that vessel to be watched on her arrival in the port of London; and I have now been informed by the Lords of the Treasury that the Commissioners of Customs have reported that the "*Paquita*" sailed from London for Liverpool on the 18th of August

last, and that she was on the 29th ultimo about to leave the Mersey for Manilla with a legal cargo, and that the Customs authorities of Liverpool had reported that there was no reason to suppose that she is at present about to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 439.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a Decree which was published on the 19th of December by the Captain-General of Cuba, directing that the owners of all the slaves in the island are to provide their slaves with pass-tickets, which are to be issued and registered by the proper authorities, and to be renewed half-yearly.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 440.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, January 20, 1855.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th instant, and I have to inform you that I approve the note which you addressed to Señor Luzuriaga in reply to his communication of the 8th instant, on the subject of the measures proposed to be taken by the Spanish Government for the purpose of applying to the Slave Trade the penalties attached to the crime of piracy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 441.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 2, 1855.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 13th of December last, respecting the statement made by Mr. Soulé as to the belief entertained by the people of the United States that an arrangement had been concluded between the British and Spanish Governments for the introduction of free negroes in large numbers into Cuba; I transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch† from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, inclosing a copy of a note which he had addressed to the United States Secretary of State on this subject, in conformity with instructions which I had transmitted to him to that effect.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 538.

† No. 627.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 6.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 24, 1855.

REFERRING to your Lordship's despatch of the 13th February of last year,* and to previous correspondence respecting delay in furnishing the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana with the lists of the emancipados and their liberation, I have the honour to inclose translation of a note which I have received from Señor Luzuriaga, in which his Excellency states that the engagements of Her Catholic Majesty's Government in these matters have been fulfilled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 442.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 18, 1855.

UNDER date of the 17th February of last year, a communication was addressed to the General Colonial Office, inclosing copy of your Lordship's note, dated the 30th December, 1853, relative to the lists of emancipated negroes in the Island of Cuba, which the British Government wished should be furnished by the Captain-General of that colonial possession to the Mixed Commission established at the Havana.

The aforesaid Colonial Office consequently applied to the abovementioned functionary for the proper information upon the subject, and the latter has replied stating that the emancipated negroes, and those who are under contract as free labourers, having been already manumitted in conformity with the regulations of the 1st January last, wherein the rights of the liberated slaves are established, the stipulations contained in the Vth and VIth Articles of Annex C to the Treaty of 1835, which your Lordship invokes in your aforesaid note of December 30, 1853, were consequently duly fulfilled.

Moreover, in another note of the 21st of February of last year, your Lordship called the attention of Her Catholic Majesty's Government to the necessity of the aforesaid Mixed Commission being furnished with a list of all the emancipados who might have received their letters of freedom by virtue of the regulations of January 1st, above alluded to. This document must be in possession of the British Government since it was transmitted to Lord Clarendon by Her Catholic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in London, in his note of the 21st of March last.

I therefore consider the two points referred to in your Lordship's notes of the 30th December, 1853, and of 21st February last, as being thus settled to the satisfaction of the Government of which your Lordship is the worthy Representative.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

No. 443.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received February 13.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 7, 1855.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 15th ultimo, I lost no time in communicating to Señor Luzuriaga the substance of Mr. Doyle's despatch to your Lordship relative to a scheme which it would appear had been agreed upon between a Mexican officer named

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 497.

Jimenez and the house of Goicoria and Co. of the Havana, who had engaged to furnish a body of 200 armed men and officers in order to assist in making war upon the Indians of Yucatan, on condition that Messrs. Goicoria and Co. should be enabled to send to Cuba for their use any prisoners taken in that war on payment of the sum of 15 dollars for each prisoner.

I have the honour to inclose to your Lordship translation of the answer which I have received from his Excellency.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 443.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, February 1, 1855.

I HAVE had the honour of receiving your Lordship's note dated the 22nd of January last, relative to the contract which is supposed to have been concluded between the Mexican Government and the house of Messrs. Goicoria and Co. of the Havana, whereby the latter seems to have engaged to furnish a body of 200 armed men, in order to make war against the Indians of Yucatan, on condition that the Yucatanese prisoners are to be placed at the disposal of Messrs. Goicoria and Co. by whom they are to be transported to the Island of Cuba, for the purpose of making them work there to the profit of the house in question.

Inclosed in your note your Lordship has sent to me an extract from a despatch from Mr. Doyle, the British Representative at Mexico, relative to the same subject; and after requesting that the proper orders be communicated to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, directing him to prevent the execution of the aforesaid undertaking within the territory under his command, your Lordship adds, that if Her Majesty's Government should permit the inhabitants of Cuba to carry on a private warfare in a neighbouring State, such a fact would justify the expeditions of the freebooters against that Colonial Possession.

Before proceeding to reply to the essential part of your Lordship's note, I cannot abstain from drawing your Lordship's attention upon the little or rather no analogy at all which exists between expeditions of the aforesaid kind and the case which you pretend to set forth as an example which would justify them.

The undertaking of the house of Goicoria, supposing the case of its existence and of its being carried into effect, would have for its principal basis the express consent of the Mexican Government, which, in the free exercise of its administrative power, would thus appear as the contractor of 200 armed men for the account of a mercantile firm, as an auxiliary force, to assist in subjecting to obedience a portion of the natives of the country,—the Yucatan Indians,—who are in open rebellion against the chief of the State; whilst the piratical expeditions against the Island of Cuba have been acts perpetrated against the sacred rights of sovereignty, which Her Catholic Majesty possesses over her dominions—acts which the Government resisted by main force, and finally, acts tending to disturb order and public tranquillity in the aforesaid Colonial Possession.

This most remarkable difference between the two above mentioned cases will certainly not escape your Lordship's well known good sense; and I entertain no doubt that you will clearly perceive the inefficiency and the inapplicability to the present case of the argument contained in the latter part of your note; wherefore, omitting further observations, I proceed to reply to the principal point.

According to the aforesaid extract from Mr. Doyle's despatch, the terms of the contract denounced by your Lordship are not the same as those supposed by your Lordship in your note, since the proposal of the house of Goicoria, which is said to have been accepted by the Mexican Government, is confined to the fact of the house in question taking the engagement of paying to the Treasury of the Republic, 20,000 dollars in two instalments, and receiving, on

payment of the first 10,000 dollars, the Yucatanese prisoners, who may be fit for labour, existing in possession of the Mexican Government, and subsequently, on payment of the other 10,000 dollars, receiving the other prisoners who may have been taken since the payment of the first instalment.

The origin of this proposition, which, even with the aforesaid modification, is a reprehensible one, in the opinion of Her Catholic Majesty's Government, was, as appears from Mr. Doyle's despatch itself, the failure of the efforts made by a certain Don Tito Vecino, of whom Colonel Jimenez, the author of the aforesaid proposal, is supposed to be the agent, for the purpose of inducing the Indians of Yucatan to enter into a voluntary contract as colonists for the Island of Cuba, according to the conditions of a concession granted to that effect to the aforesaid Señor Vecino.

Her Catholic Majesty's Government, which was, in due time, informed of this concession, when it was only relative to voluntary contracts on the part of the Indians of Yucatan, anticipating itself, to a certain degree, the wishes now expressed by the British Government on this subject, and with the object of clearly determining what would be the position of the Indians of Yucatan in the Island of Cuba, made an official declaration to the Representative of the Mexican Republic at this Court, stating that the Indians in question would be subjected to the general regulations issued for the colonists in the Royal Order of the 22nd March, 1854, published in the official "Gazette" No. 468.

It appears, according to Mr. Doyle's statement, that the original concession obtained by Vecino, has been subsequently converted into a contract, which is repulsive to every humane feeling and tending to the destruction of the Yucatanese race; but Her Majesty's Government, although it reprobates such a scheme as much as it is reprobated by the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, possesses no other means of action, to prevent its execution, than those emanating from the aforesaid Royal Order relative to the colonists in Cuba. According to this Royal Order, it is required, for the importation of colonists into that island, that such colonists shall exhibit the contract they may have made with the importer; and certainly, it will not be possible for any contractor who may have seized a certain number of Yucatan Indians by force of arms, or purchased them for a sum of money, without their own consent, to fulfil the above-mentioned indispensable legal requisite. Moreover, the Yucatan Indians, as well as any other colonists, from wheresoever they may come, from the moment they tread on the territory of Cuba, are placed under the protection of the laws which prohibit their being reduced to slavery; and thus, without any especial measures being required, it becomes impossible that schemes like the one which has alarmed the philanthropical feelings of Great Britain, can be carried into effect in the dominions of Her Catholic Majesty.

Beyond these limits, I do not consider it possible for Her Majesty's Government to make an efficient opposition to the execution of the enterprise referred to by your Lordship, because, if the Government of Mexico is willing to enter into an illicit traffic, in regard to the Yucatanese prisoners, the Government of Spain is not bound to interfere in it, since there is no international stipulation or compact whatever which authorizes the latter to do so; nor is it possible for it to prevent Spanish subjects from taking part, with the express consent of the chief of the Mexican Republic, in a war which he wages, within his own territory, against individuals declared by him to be rebels.

As a precautionary measure, however, a transcript of your Lordship's note and of its inclosure, will be sent to the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, in order that he may watch with special care over the rigorous fulfilment of the regulations relative to the admission of colonists from Yucatan; and I trust that your Lordship being fully convinced of the liberal and humane principles which Her Majesty's Government professes, will entertain no doubt of its decision to oppose itself, as far as it is in its power, to all acts which are not consistent with those principles.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

CLAUDO. ANTON. LUZURIAGA

No. 444.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to previous correspondence, I transmit to your Lordship herewith for your information, a copy of a further despatch* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba on the question of the Slave Trade being declared piracy by the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 445.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 21, 1855.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 24th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a note from Señor Luzuriaga, in which his Excellency states, that a proper list of the emancipados in Cuba has been furnished to Her Majesty's Government, I have to state to you that the document alluded to by Señor Luzuriaga as having been sent in by M. Comyn was not that which was asked for in my despatch of the 13th February, 1854, as that document was merely a rough account of the number of slaves emancipated, and does not answer the description contained in Articles V and VI of Annex C to the Treaty of June 28th, 1835. What is required is, that the Captain-General of Cuba should furnish the Mixed Commission Court at the Havana with half-yearly returns of the emancipados, in accordance with those Articles.

I transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch † on this subject from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, from which it appears that the Captain-General has promised that the lists required shall be furnished regularly; and if this promise shall be punctually fulfilled, Her Majesty's Government will have no further request to make on the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 446.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch ‡ which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, instructing him to make some observations to the Captain-General respecting the large number of slaves which have been imported into Cuba during last year.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

* No. 546.

† See Class A, No. 40.

‡ No. 548.

No. 447.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1855.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, inclosing a Decree issued by the Captain-General, on the 28th of December last, prolonging the terms of service during which the emancipados are bound to work as apprentices before they are entirely liberated.

I inclose, also, for your information, a copy of a despatch† which I have addressed to Mr. Crawford, instructing him to make a representation to the Captain-General respecting this Decree.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 448.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 9, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo,‡ inclosing a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba respecting the condition of the emancipados in that island, I transmit to you a copy of a further despatch§ which I have received from Mr. Crawford, upon the same subject, from which your Lordship will perceive, that under the regulations established by the Spanish authorities, the emancipados are not only allotted for certain periods of service, but are paid at a rate much inferior to the wages they would be able to earn as free labourers, and from which small allowance a large proportion is deducted as a contribution to the fund of the emancipados.

As an illustration of the manner in which the so-called "emancipated" negroes are treated in Cuba, I also transmit to your Lordship a copy of a despatch|| from Her Majesty's Commissary Judge at the Havana, giving the history of a negress named Angela, who applied to him for his assistance to obtain her entire freedom.

It appears from Mr. Backhouse's statement, that this poor woman ought to have been freed in 1848, after having served a period of five years after her capture; but that after a further servitude of upwards of five years more, she was again assigned for another year.

And I have to instruct your Lordship to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the condition and prospects of the emancipados, and to represent it to them as a matter well worthy of their humane and favourable consideration.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CLARENDON.

No. 449.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 28.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 23, 1855.

IN a session of the Cortes of the 8th instant, and on the occasion of a question being addressed to Señor Luzuriaga, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the circumstances attending the late conspiracy in Cuba, his Excellency made the accompanying declaration respecting slavery in that island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure in No. 449.

Extract of Señor Luzuriaga's speech in the Session of the Cortes of March 8, 1855.

(Translation.)

THE gentlemen deputies ought always to bear in mind, that in every question connected with the Island of Cuba, there is invariably a latent cause of impulsion—a cause which we all overlook, and of which we all may eventually become innocent instruments, and which, therefore, requires, on our part, great circumspection and reserve whenever we are to deliberate on matters connected with that island—the circumstance which may, at present, give rise to some apprehension, is the spirit of annexation to a neighbouring State, by which a few turbulent persons are animated. But, gentlemen, this tendency would not be a dangerous one if it were not associated with another idea.—The idea of annexation is always coupled with the conviction, that by this means the continuation of slavery in the Island of Cuba will be secured. Let this circumstance not be lost sight of, nor that all landed and agricultural property, which constitute the only and great source of wealth of that island, depends on the preservation of slavery, and that, consequently, whenever this principle appears to be endangered, the landed proprietors become alarmed, and naturally feel inclined to side with those who offer a greater security to this principle.

Gentlemen, whenever the question of slavery is mooted, the feelings of philanthropy and other considerations which are inseparable from this idea, become naturally excited. But it is necessary to bear in mind one thing, namely, that the Island of Cuba can only cease from being an integral portion of the Spanish territory by one of the two following means—either by emancipation, which would be the thorough extermination of the white race, that is to say, of all Spaniards and natives of the island of European origin, or by annexation; and, by this latter means, those persons who hold slavery in the greatest abhorrence, would not succeed in seeing it abolished. Her Majesty's Government is, therefore, determined to maintain the Treaties which prohibit the Slave Trade, and to execute them with fidelity and sincerity; and it can assert, that they are and will continue to be faithfully and rigorously executed. But at the same time, gentlemen, Her Majesty's Government entertains the intimate conviction that slavery is a necessity and an indispensable condition for the existence of landed property in the Island of Cuba; and it has only anticipated the feelings of the gentlemen deputies by giving to the natives and landed proprietors of the island in question, the assurance that no one has the intention of attacking that principle.

No. 450.

Lord Howden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 28.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 3, 1855.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, translations of two notes which I have received from Her Catholic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; the one relative to the capture of 257 Bozal negroes in the district of the Island of Pines, and of 23 sailors who had been mixed up in this transaction; and the other, also relative to the capture, in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, of 263 coloured Africans, and the arrest of the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don Ramon Clavel y Samante, who had rendered himself suspicious to the Spanish authorities for his conduct on the occasion.

I have addressed a note to Señor Luzuriaga, in reply, thanking his Excellency for these communications, and stating, that I felt convinced that Her Majesty's Government would learn with much satisfaction these proofs of the zeal and good faith with which that of Spain is determined to fulfil its Treaty stipulations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) HOWDEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 450.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 9, 1855.

THE Captain-General of the Island of Cuba has transmitted to this office, through the General Colonial Office, a legalized copy of the summary investigation instituted by the Military Commander of the Island of Pines, in consequence of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes which had taken place in that district; and from these papers it appears that 257 of the aforesaid negroes have been seized and declared to be free by the above-mentioned Superior Authority of the Island of Cuba, and that twenty-three sailors who seemed to be implicated in the landing of those negroes have been arrested.

I hasten, therefore, to communicate to your Lordship this new proof of the zeal of the authorities of the Island of Cuba, trusting that it will be duly appreciated by the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 450.

Señor Luzuriaga to Lord Howden.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 9, 1855.

THE General Colonial Office has transmitted to this office four legalized copies of an equal number of summary investigations instituted in consequence of several seizures of Bozal negroes which have taken place in the district of Bahia-Honda (Island of Cuba); and, from these papers it appears, that the number of coloured Africans who have been captured by the Spanish authorities amounts to 263, and that the Sub-delegate of Marine, Don Ramon Clavel y Samante, has been arrested on suspicion of remissness in the fulfilment of his duty in regard to the landings of the aforesaid Africans.

The negroes captured in the above-mentioned district have been declared to be free, and placed under the care of persons who will teach them the principles of the Christian Religion, and every one of the other stipulations concerning them, contained in the Treaty of 1835, will be strictly fulfilled.

On bringing these facts to your Lordship's knowledge I trust, that you will communicate them to the British Government, calling its attention to the activity and perseverance with which the Slave Trade is now persecuted.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) CLAUDIO ANTON. LUZURIAGA.

No. 451.

The Earl of Clarendon to Lord Howden.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1855.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of January and to your Lordship's of the 7th of February, respecting the transportation of Indian prisoners from Yucatan to Cuba, I transmit herewith copies of further despatches* relative to this affair which I have received from Mr. Crawford and Mr. Doyle, by which you will learn, that at the beginning of February, 135 of these Indians had arrived at Havana, and had been admitted by the Captain-General as free colonists under the Spanish law of colonization of the 22nd of March, 1854.

I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate the substance of the inclosed papers to the Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and to

* Nos. 271, 551, and 554.

call his Excellency's attention more particularly to the terms of the Contract No. 1 between the Mexican Government and Colonel Jimenez, and also to the answer returned by the Governor of Yucatan on the 16th of December last to a petition from twenty-nine of the Indians in question, which documents are inclosed in Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 3rd ultimo, and the contents of which clearly prove that these men were prisoners and not voluntary emigrants.

You will point out, that consequently the Spanish law of 1854, respecting the introduction of colonists into Cuba, has been openly violated with regard to the Indians in question; and you will state, that the frauds which have been committed in this case call urgently for the interference of the Spanish Government in order to put an end to this system of forced emigration from Yucatan.

I am &c.,
(Signed) CLARENDON.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana.*

No. 452.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

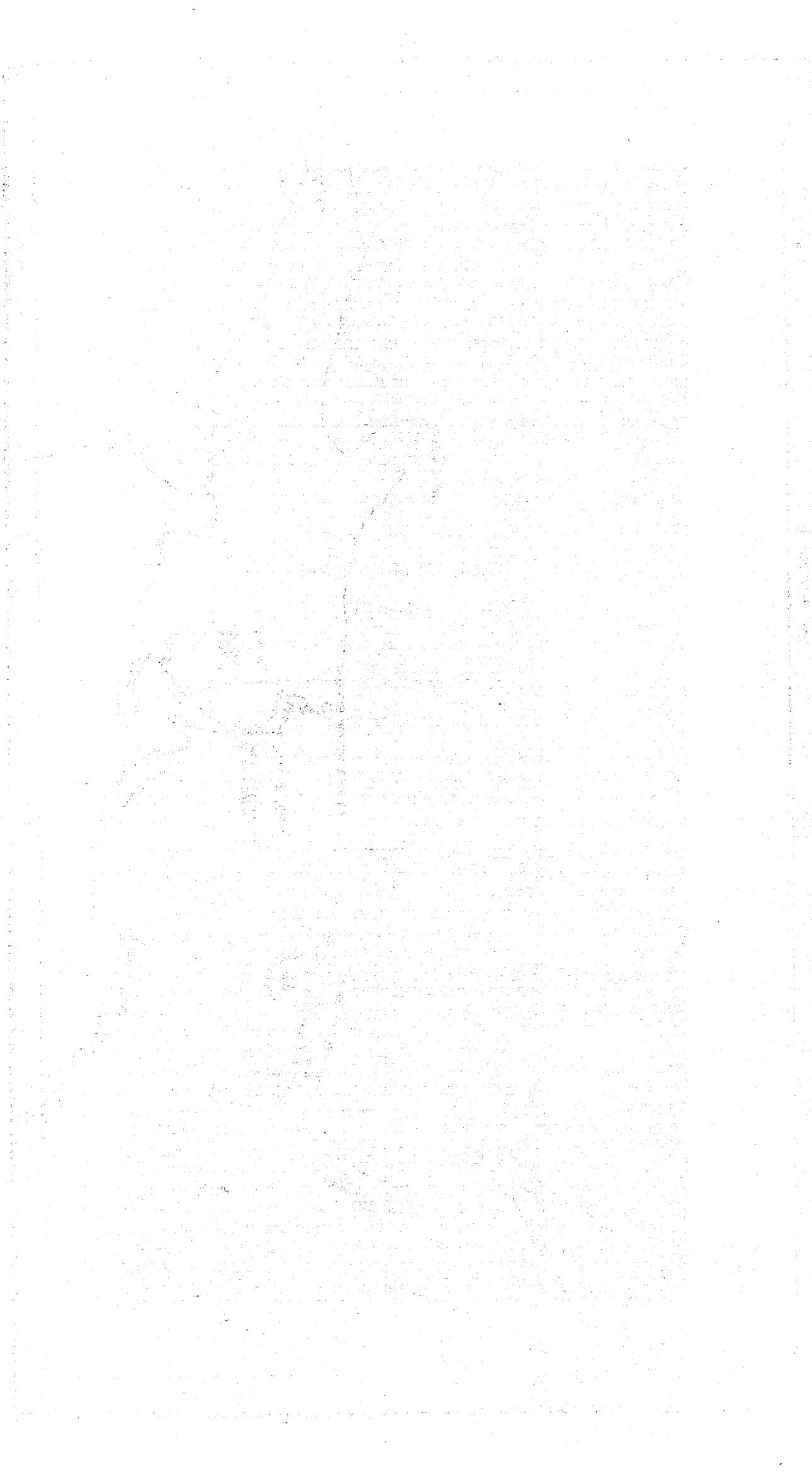
Havana, March 8, 1854.

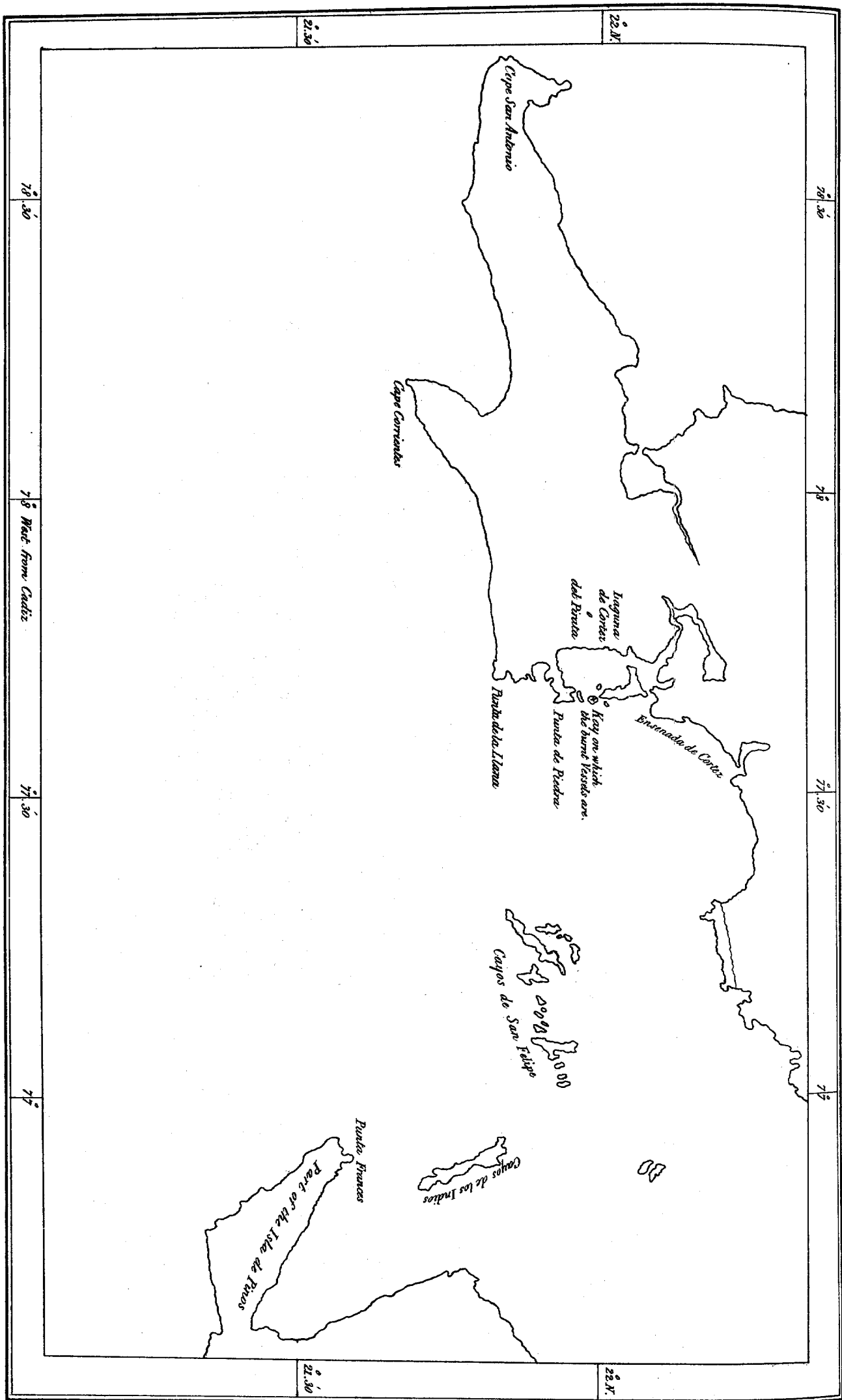
I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 14th of January,* transmitting to me a copy of the answer returned by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, to two notes which, in pursuance of your Lordship's directions, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Madrid addressed to M. Calderon de la Barca, on the 23rd of October and on the 1st of November, respecting the landings of Bozal negroes. In obedience to your Lordship's direction, I have made further inquiry into these three cases, and I have now the honour of reporting to your Lordship, that I am quite satisfied of the fact that the landings at all three places did occur at the time I denounced them to the then Captain-General; the only difference being, with respect to the slaver which effected the disembarkation at the Ensenada de Cortez, that instead of her burning a-ground near to the remains of the other two (the "*Jasper*" and the "*Nueva Empresa*"), she drifted away and sank out at sea; but the Ensenada de Cortez having been examined by Her Majesty's officers, Commander Napier has pointed out to me the place where the two wrecks are lying still, but now hardly visible above water, and I am enabled to lay before your Lordship a sketch of their position, situated not a mile from the main land of that part of the island.

I hope that my qualification of such acts in denouncing them to the Captain-General may not be considered as unwarrantable, when it is borne in mind that there has been such repeated violation of the law at the same place, and that four successive commissions which were dispatched for the purpose of investigating the circumstances had not been able to discover any traces of the slaves which had been landed, nor evidence to prove the connivance of the authorities at such audacious acts of the slavers, and had it not been for the discovery of the crew of the "*Jasper*," and that of the twenty men belonging to the "*Nueva Empresa*," who were accidentally fallen in with and captured by the officer who was sent in charge of the six missing sailors of the "*Jasper*," the efforts of these repeated commissions might have passed for proof that no such expeditions of slaves had ever arrived at the Ensenada de Cortez, and the connivance of the local authorities could not well have been called in question. I am, however, enabled to prove by the declaration of two of the British subjects who were on board the "*Jasper*," which I have now the honour of transmitting to your Lordship, that there was most complete connivance of the authorities and inhabitants of that part of the island; in the first place with regard to the landing of the negroes, and in the second place, for the concealment of the sailors for so long a time; so that it is not to be wondered at with such a combination of infamy, that the ends of justice were defeated as they were, and that all the parties have gone unpunished.

The negroes from the "*Jasper*" were landed by boats, or launches from the shore, as well as by the ship's launch; there were two white men in the shore boats, the rest were negroes; the ship was burnt within a mile of the shore, the Englishmen and Americans belonging to the crew were landed and taken to a place at some distance to the westward, from thence to an

* See Class B, presented 1854, No. 635.





estate inland, afterwards to one of the cays, and ultimately they were brought across the island (six of them) on horseback to the north side.

I need not observe to your Lordship that all this could not be done without connivance of the authorities, in such a country; and besides the British and American seamen's declaration to which I have now alluded, I would refer M. Calderon de la Barca to the whole proceedings carried out before the Royal Audiencia upon the trial of Lieutenant-Governor Ayllon and these sailors, to which I had occasion to refer in my despatch of the 5th ultimo, an extract from which I beg leave here to transcribe.

In answer to your Lordship's direction that I should state whether I wrote to the Captain-General, "I knew that the remains of the burnt vessel were visible"—I beg leave to inclose herewith a copy of my letter to the Captain-General of the 30th of September, in which I stated to his Excellency, not that I knew it, but that the three burnt hulks may now "be found near to each other," &c.; but, as I have now stated to your Lordship, the last of the three having floated off from the shoal and drifted out to sea, the remains of two are only to be found at this time, and they are gradually disappearing, as Commander Napier informs me, by the usual process of decay and the plunder of the wreckers and neighbouring inhabitants.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 452.

[Sketch.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 452.

Declarations.

Declarations of Charles William Hersey and Charles Robinson, British subjects, who were sailors on board the American barque "*Jasper*," made at Havana, before Joseph Tucker Crawford, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul-General.

CHARLES WILLIAM HERSEY a native of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, and Charles Robinson, a native of Canada, declared that they were on board the barque "*Jasper*," that they shipped at New York under the belief that she was going on a lawful voyage to the coast of Africa and back to New York, the voyage not to exceed eleven months. Arrived first at Elmina and went from thence to Cape Coast, trading their rum, tobacco, &c., for ivory; from Cape Coast they went to Elmina (Chica), where they discharged the most of the cargo, and a supercargo left them. There were three of them on board when they left New York. From Little Elmina they went to a place about twenty-four hours run to the southward, the name of which they do not know, and about three miles to the southward of that the slaves were brought alongside at sundown in Canoes, when Captain Townshend called the crew into the Cabin and told them, that he had sold the vessel three days previously, and that he could not protect them any longer, he asked them what they were going to do, that if they went on shore they would surely be killed by the natives; he told them, that if they were taken by a man-of-war they had only to say that they were passengers, and they would be all free. Deponents and the others did not know what to do, and in less than two hours the Spaniards slipped the vessel's cable, and they found themselves at sea. They did not see any cruiser or other vessel till they arrived at the south side of this island, at a place called Punta de Cartas, where they took a pilot to take them further to the westward. Running to the westward the ship grounded on a shoal, which lays about a mile from the main land, where she stuck, and they tried for three days to get her off.

The negroes (about 450 to the best of deponents knowledge), were all taken out by boats from the shore and the ship's launch, the first morning

after the ship got on shore ; the boats from the shore had two white men in them, the rest were negroes. The Spanish Captain went on shore and got the boats which came for the slaves ; do not know his name, but heard him called Don José; he went away with the negroes and they did not see him for about a fortnight; he then came to them at the place where they were concealed, and told them, that he was going to have them sent to Havana, after which he went away and they saw no more of him.

The crew (Americans and English) were taken from the vessel to the shore on the third night after she grounded, and before they reached the shore they set the ship on fire, it was the Spaniards from the shore who set fire to the ship; do not know by whose orders she was burnt; these English and Americans were told that they must leave the ship because a steamer was expected that would capture them, so they must keep out of the way till she was gone, when they would go back; but there was no ship to go to the next day for she was burnt in the meantime in the manner described.

These deponents were taken from the place where they were landed on the main land of the island, to a place about three leagues further on to the westward to a fishing place where they were lodged, they were accompanied by the Spanish mate whose name was Ignacio; they were at that place for about fourteen days; after which they were conducted to a plantation inland, where they were kept for about two months, and they were then taken to Cayo San Felipe for nineteen days when they were re-conducted to the same plantation inland for about a month, and then on horses they crossed the island to the north side on to a plantation, at that place they got a boat and came inside the Colorados towards Havana, when they were taken at a place called Portuguese point, and brought prisoners to Havana.

The twenty men who were captured about three leagues from where they, Hersey and his companions, were hidden at the plantation on the south side of the island belonged to a schooner also a slaver which landed her cargo after those of the "Jasper," and that schooner was burnt close beside the "Jasper," where the wrecks of both vessels are still to be seen.

Havana, March 4, 1854.

(Signed)

CHARLES ^{his} ~~X~~ ROBINSON.
mark

CHARLES W. ^{his} ~~X~~ HERSEY.
mark

Inclosure 3 in No. 452.

Extract from the Proceedings against the parties implicated in the disembarkation of Bozal negroes in the jurisdiction of Pinar del Rio, Island of Cuba.

(Translation.)

June 1853.

THE Fiscal, to whom the antecedents in this case were passed, states, that had the circumstances been made known opportunely to the Audiencia, in all probability the steps which were taken for the correction of this crime would not have been fruitless; but nearly two months having been allowed to pass, it will not be so easy to obtain a useful result.

This opinion was given upon the case at the time the Captain-General thought proper, after dealing with it himself for two months, to pass it to the Royal Audiencia, and after a commission from the Royal Audiencia had been sent to Bailen and had failed to obtain proofs of any kind, as the Fiscal had predicted. That learned authority delivers his judgment as follows on the 15th of October last:—

I do not consider that either the superior authorities or their subalterns are free of all suspicion. It is true, he says, that if so much vigilance had been constantly exercised, either the disembarkation would not have taken place, or it would have come to the knowledge of the superior authorities sufficiently soon that measures might have been taken for the apprehension of the negroes and the guilty parties.

His Honour cannot free Colonel Ayllon from the suspicions which appear against him, but as the proofs are not sufficient his Honour can ask no

more that for his negligence these proceedings shall be suspended with a severe reprehension, and the payment of part of the costs, which shall be recovered from him equally as from Don José Perez (the Captain Pedaneo), in whose district the negroes were landed.

But, notwithstanding this opinion of the Fiscal, the Royal Audiencia, first division, composed of the judges Buelta, Majoorada, and Harqua, suspended the proceedings against Colonel Ayllon and Don José Perez, without any punishment of them whatever.

Inclosure 4 in No. 452.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Sir,

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 Cayo 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 Diaz.

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 Batabano 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 Diaz 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 purpose as may be deemed expedient.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 453.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 8, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Lordship that I received by the last packet an official letter from his Excellency the Governor of Jamaica, a copy of which I have now the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship, and having in consequence addressed a communication to the Captain-General upon the subject of Sir Henry Barkly's despatch, I beg leave to lay that correspondence before your Lordship, by which it appears that nearly all the freed emancipados have engaged themselves as free servants under the regulations prescribed by the Marquis Pezuela, who had promised that the Governor of Jamaica's invitation shall be proposed to the few who are remaining not yet come in from distant places of the interior, but that there

is but little prospect of their being desirous of emigrating to Jamaica for the reasons mentioned in the Political Secretary's letter, the difference of language, usages, and customs which they had acquired by a long residence here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 453.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, February 28, 1854.

HIS Excellency Sir Henry Barkly, the Governor of Jamaica, to whom I communicated your Excellency's Decree granting freedom to all the emancipados, has addressed to me a despatch dated the 25th ultimo, in which he informs me that he has received "addresses from both branches of the legislature requesting him to ascertain to what extent the negroes thus emancipated would be available as free emigrants to that island; and his Excellency adds that no country in the world can offer superior advantages as an asylum and home for the African race."

At the Governor's request, therefore, I beg leave to submit this matter to your Excellency's consideration, in case it should be deemed expedient in any degree to avail of Sir Henry Barkly's proposition, and that any of the freed emancipados should with your Excellency's sanction, be disposed to emigrate to Jamaica.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 453.

The Secretary to the Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

March 3, 1854.

HIS Excellency the Governor and Captain-General has received your Honour's communication of the 28th of February last, in which the proposition of the Governor of Jamaica is made known to him, respecting the freed emancipados of this island who wish to pass over to that place; and his Excellency having informed himself thereof, desires me to say to your Honour, as I do, that by virtue of the Ordinance recently published by his Excellency the emancipados to whom you refer have contracted themselves with the employers whom they chose, a small number of them only remaining who have not been engaged because they are at places in the interior of the island. To those, his Excellency will take measures for this proposition being made known in case they wish to accept it, as they cannot be forced to do so. But it does not seem probable they will avail of it, when it is considered that they having been here for years, having acquired the language, usages, and customs of the Spaniards, they will refuse to change all this suddenly, by transferring themselves to a country to them totally unknown, which, as your Honour knows, has been the case with some of those whom this Government has found it convenient to send to Jamaica, and who have asked with success that they should not be obliged to abandon that which they look upon as their true home.

I repeat, &c.

(Signed) JOSE ESTEVAN.

Inclosure 3 in No. 453.

The Governor of Jamaica to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

King's House, January 25, 1854.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of 20th ultimo, communicating the arrival of the new Captain-General of Cuba, the Marquis de la Pezuela, and the promulgation by his Excellency of a Decree giving liberty to the emancipados.

I am sorry to learn that this Decree is not complete enough in its provisions to be likely to prove satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government.

One of the newspapers of this island has published what purports to be a translation of it, which has attracted much attention here, and I have in consequence received addresses from both branches of the legislature requesting me to ascertain to what extent the negroes thus emancipated would be available as free emigrants to Jamaica.

You are so well aware that no country in the world can offer superior advantages as an asylum and a home for the African race, that it is unnecessary for me to enlarge upon the point, nor need I do more than remind you how highly any services you may be able to render in such a matter would be appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

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

Inclosure 4 in No. 453.

Consul-General Crawford to the Governor of Jamaica.

Sir,

Havana, March 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's despatch of the 25th of January, and, in consequence addressed a communication upon the subject of the freed emancipados to his Excellency the Captain-General; and I have now the honour of transmitting herewith a copy thereof, and of the Political Secretary's answer, by desire of the Marquis de la Pezuela, by which your Excellency will perceive that nearly all the freed emancipados have engaged themselves here under the regulations prescribed by the Captain-General, who has promised, however, that your Excellency's invitation shall be proposed to the few who are remaining not yet come in from distant places in the interior; but that he thinks there is little prospect of their being desirous of emigrating to Jamaica, because of the difference of the language, usages, and customs which they have acquired by a long residence here.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 454.

Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 9, 1854.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith inclosed to your Lordship, a copy of the defence which was put in by M. Costalas, the counsel appointed for the three British sailors, Charles Robinson, William Hersey, and John Ratcliffe, who were on board the slaver "*Jasper*," and also a copy of the definitive sentence putting them and their companions, the six Americans, at liberty.

I am told that there has been no inconsiderable legal ingenuity displayed

in the management of these proceedings, so as to admit of the results which have been arrived at in the acquittal of the Spanish officers implicated, and the discharge from prison of the British and American seamen, showing that it was impossible to obtain the declarations of any witnesses to prove that any negroes had ever been landed, consequently the impunity of all and everybody who had to do with the transaction, and yet here were nine men who came over in the ship from which upwards of 400 slaves were landed, who declare that they were so landed, and that their ship was burnt close to the mainland of the place in this island where she grounded.

Under such circumstances, my Lord, I venture to assert that nowhere else in the world could such a transaction have taken place.

I have now to report that Hersey and Ratcliffe have embarked, by Her Majesty's ship "Vestal," sailed for Bermuda and Halifax; but Robinson, who is a Canadian, having his relations residing in the United States, has preferred remaining on board the American steamer-of-war "Fulton," now in this harbour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 454.

Translation of the principal points of defence of the British Seamen who were on board the "Jasper."

THAT there are no data in this process for considering the three sailors accomplices in the introduction of Bozal negroes.

The legal facts are wanting in this process; the *corpo de delicto* is wanting. There has been no capture of the negroes who are said to have been introduced; not one of them has been found; the names of the outfitters, of the captain, of the mate, and of the crew, are not known; and of the ship herself, not even the fragments have they found, &c.

Not a single witness has been met with; all of them say, that they know nothing about it; and if nothing of all that has been said about this affair appears in a judicial way, where then is the *corpo de delicto*?

However vehement may be the conjectures, they do not amount to proofs: we look for these amongst the pages of the process, and do not find them; we take more pains to look for them, and the only thing we find is the declaration of the Americans, proving that they have been the victims, but nothing more. These declarations are not the confession of crime, nor are they sufficient for their condemnation, as we shall demonstrate.

The law requires clearness in the proofs, and there is nothing of this in the analysis; the legal fact is wanting, and without this no punishment can be inflicted.

The law requires proofs, not suspicions, whereon to condemn.

The practice of our Courts is, to absolve the prosecuted when his criminality is not proved, although it is evident that the crime has been committed; which is as much as to say, that the means of investigation have not been efficacious to demonstrate the responsibility of the party proceeded against; but in this case there is even less than this, because, in the voluminous summary, it is not proved that negroes were introduced, which is the occasion of the process.

The Slave Trade, so immoral and barbarous, which makes of man a merchandize, which degrades and makes vile those who engage in it, has found numerous followers, as the Fiscal acknowledges, and seldom have the tribunal's authority reached to disperse the clouds and darkness with which the love of gain, corruption, and daring, serve to envelop this crime, which reason and the law of humanity condemn.

By this your Highness may see how, in the official letter at folio 1, the Administrator of the Revenues at Mantua asserts, that there were notorious rumours of 280 negroes having been introduced at the Punto de Bailen, but that not a single person attested it; so that there is not a single word written

in these pages, excepting the declarations of the seamen, which deals with this fact, so that the citations of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul for that reason (the effects of the Slave Trade) were completely negative, and for the same reason the *corpo de delicto* has not been proved.

We must not, however, deduce from this, as the Fiscal has put it in his opinion, that the country is in favour of the introduction of Africans. The same thing happens upon the investigation of the gravest actions; there are those who see, who were present, who know, who refer to, and who, in private, assert, and can give an account of the smallest particulars, but who will say nothing, know nothing, and are ignorant of everything, when they are called up judicially.

Unfortunately, to the law, as a civil institution, there is attached a certain dread, which is unlucky, because its fruit is, that crimes go unpunished, and leaves in inaction the powerful arm of the tribunals.

To this custom, which has its origin in ignorance and error, and which will cease with the effects of illustration, is owing the profound silence which is observable, and the want of data for judicial decisions; and can it be said for this, that the country where this happens is in favour of the impunity of crime; that it loves and foment crime?

Most certainly not: evils there are whose root is in the being of the people, and the people receive an education, socially, which influences their private or intellectual, as well as their habits and all their actions; and it is not possible to mark this influence which, notwithstanding, they feel and notice in all their acts.

For the legislator, for the jurisconsult, and for these and for the humblest observer, there are never wanting special cases. The obscurity of this summary, the sterile result of the infinite number of measures taken. Silence and denial working against the activity and perseverance of the Magistrate do not prove that the country is in favour of the introduction of Africans, nor for the infraction of the Treaties whose observance they so much try to fulfil.

John Radcliffe, Charles Robinson, and William Hersey, are not accomplices, in the introduction of the 280 negroes; they are victims and not delinquents, deceived and not deceivers.

There is not any article of the Penal Law which comprehends their case; they were not captured either at sea or on shore in the committal of the crime, nor did their vessel go out from this island; no negroes have been captured. Excepting in their own declarations, there is not the slightest indication of the expedition. Outfitters and captain have taken, as their confession of crime, the very exception which would free them, unless, indeed, they had obtained proof of the disembarkation.

That they sailed from New York, as sailors on board the American barque "*Jasper*," to Africa, upon a voyage of lawful commerce: that, as soon as they saw the negroes on board, they refused to continue the voyage, but they could obtain nothing, owing to the distance they were from the place where they had a Consul of their nation; that they were brought to the south of this island; that in a boat they were taken to Cayo Eubias, the captain, mate, and those employed in the vessel, having gone away; that those others set fire to the vessel; and that, in their endeavours to obtain assistance at Cape Antonio, they were made prisoners, and taken to the steamer "*Guadalquiver*." This is what they say in their declarations. Cite, therefore, any Article the most adapted, even of the penal law, and in none of them is the present case comprehended.

The only charges which, at folios 376, 378, and 413, are made against them, are not only answered, but they are overwhelmed.

Why did they continue the voyage (they say to them) when they already knew the object, and so cooperate in the prohibited Traffic in Slaves?

Why, because victims, in the first instance, of a deception, they were so afterwards by the force of circumstances. It is quite original, that when according to law, the charges preferred should be upon the merits resulting from the process, the only ones which have here been made are based solely upon the declarations of the accused.

Read the whole summary, and from it there arises no legal charge; and this says much in favour of their innocence.

CLASS B.

In their condition as mariners, they were in ignorance of the real purpose of the expedition, nor did they occupy themselves in inquiry.

It is proved to every one how they were engaged, designating the time, the place, and the wages, with expression also of the object which was stated, so that they had no reason to suspect deceit. Victims of circumstances altogether insurmountable, because in that latitude at sea, at an enormous distance from the assistance which their Consul would have afforded them, they had to submit, and did submit, in so critical a situation.

To be criminals, as they suppose Radcliffe, Robinson, and Hersey, they should have gone with the Captain, and the others belonging to the vessel, when they landed the negroes, set fire to her, and thus secured their flight; but they preferred remaining; they would not continue with those who so vilely had deceived them; they suffered hunger and privations, remaining in a strange country, even the language of which they could not speak; they got into a boat; they are apprehended, imprisoned; and even so, charges are made against them, and they are found fault with for an action in which voluntarily they took no part; they are unfortunate, and out of their very misfortune they form an accusation to send them into banishment.

We knew no one, they said: the country was strange to us; we did not know where we were to go; we did not go to the authorities, for we did not know them, because they threatened us, and they assured us that we should be imprisoned and persecuted. The actors in this offence were far away, and in safety were laughing at the efforts of those whom they had deceived to return to their homes, and the exercise of their rights.

Here there were no crimes; there is no blame, and the facts remain satisfactorily explained.

Your Highness must see that nothing has been made out as to the offence; that they have not apprehended a single negro; that the outfitters and the employés on board the vessel are unknown; that neither have they discovered who it was who here purchased those slaves; that the investigation has been carried on in the very interior of the estates; their whole strength, *i.e.*, the labourers, have been made to appear before the magistrate; the drivers, servants, and even the slaves themselves, have been interrogated; that the examination of the vessel, which was made by the Sub-delegate of the Marine, was of no use whatever, for it states, that they could not understand the rig nor the masting of the "*Jasper*," nor could they designate as being her either of the two hulks which they then saw; all remains in obscurity and mystery. They absolve, for want of proofs, Colonel Ayllon, who was the Lieutenant-Governor of Pinar del Rio, who was the local authority responsible; they also absolve the Captain Pedaneo of the district; they restore them to their employments; and there are other men of miserable station, foreigners, who lose themselves in our waters without wherewith to feed themselves; and shall the results be against them alone of these proceedings? Your Highness cannot allow it.

If these declarations, as I have shown, have no merit, your Highness absolving the functionaries of Pinar del Rio who are responsible for the guarding of those coasts; if these proceedings are not efficacious even for considering them negligent, it is impossible that these declarations, the only data in the process, should now be sufficient to condemn, when previously they were no obstacles to the acquittal. It would be absurd to conceive such an anomalous contrariety; too monstrous, when the solemn and severe acts of justice are certain, unalterable, and determine the rectitude of the magistrate, which is one of the most sacred attributes of justice.

The declarations of the sailors, my clients, are not then the confession of crime, nor is it that of which the law of Partido speaks. Read them to be convinced thereof. In them it says not, we have committed the crime; they only say, we were deceived; they refer to the unlawful acts of others, such as the Traffic, the introduction of slaves in this island; but neither in the one nor the other did they take part by their will or incentives. Cite me from their declarations the slightest foundation to accredit it.

All the circumstances under which the sailors found themselves after the negroes were on board, and they discovered the exact object of the voyage, produced over them a real necessity, a force which they could not overcome, and this force, this violence of circumstances, were the latitude, greater