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CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

**BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS**

IN

**FOREIGN COUNTRIES,**

AND WITH

**FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND,**

RELATING TO

**THE SLAVE TRADE.**

From April 1, 1858, to March 31, 1859.

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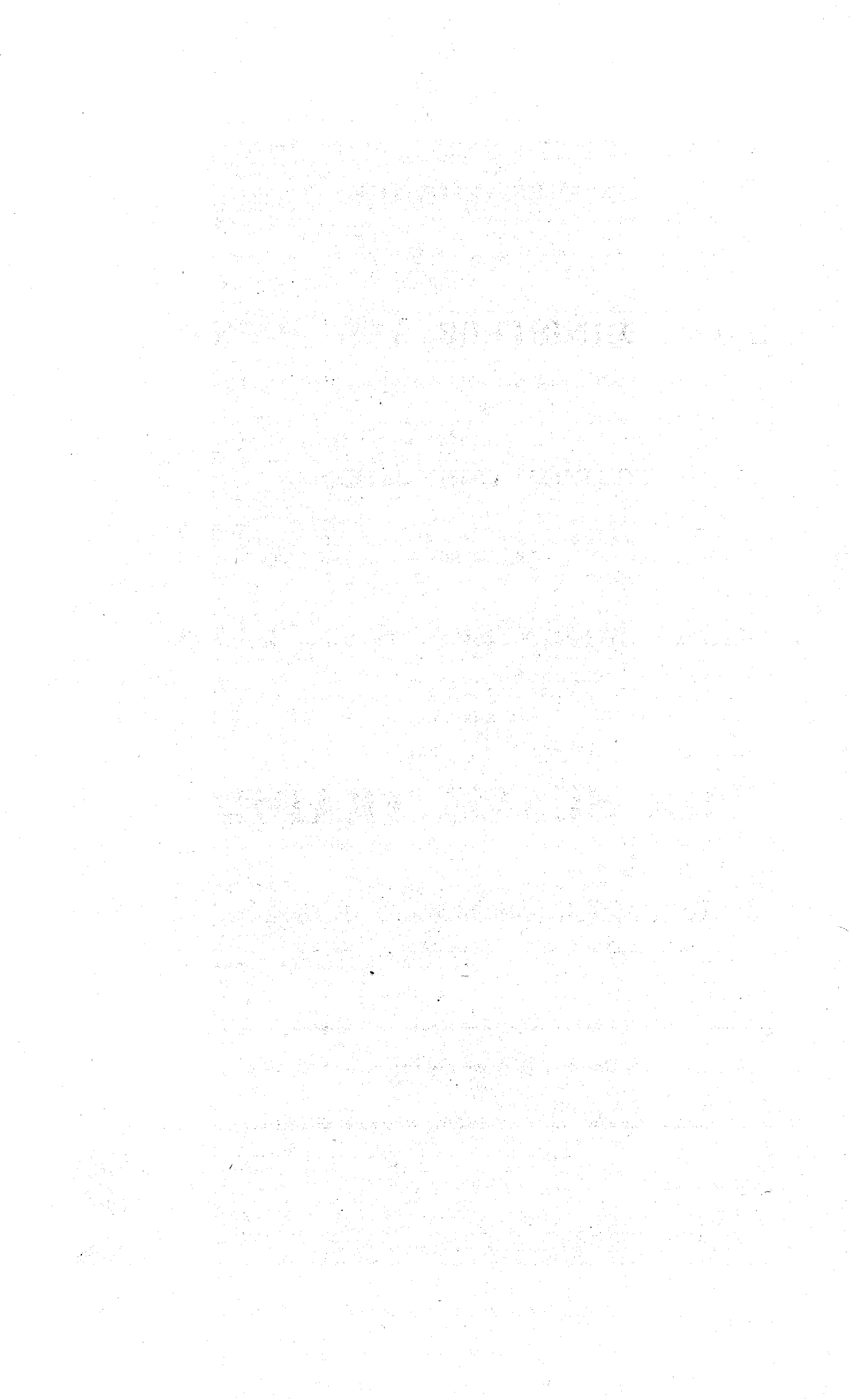
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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*  
1859.

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## LIST OF PAPERS.

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

No.		Date.		Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page
		1858	1858			
1.	Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon	Feb. 2	Apr. 19	1858	Trade report for Lagos and Benin, for 1857	1
2.	"	Mar. 1	Apr. 22	1858	Visit to Benin river	3
3.	"	Mar. 3	Apr. 22	1858	Hostile proceedings of Abbeokutans and King of Dahomey against Aibo	6
4.	"	Mar. 6	Apr. 22	1858	Trade between Kano and Ilorin. Letter from Lieutenant Glover, of the Niger expedition	7
5.	"	Mar. 8	Apr. 22	1858	No further attempts to get negroes at Whydah, by Messrs. Régis. Two vessels waiting to embark slaves	8
6.	"	Apr. 20	June 8	1858	Official visit, in Her Majesty's ship "Brune," to Badagry and Porto Novo	8
7.	"	Apr. 30	June 8	1858	Mr. Chillingworth on revolt of slaves on board "Regina Cœli"	9
8.	"	May 6	June 8	1858	Presence off Whydah of the "Stella" and "Dahomey," owned by M. Régis	11
9.	"	May 6	June 8	1858	No suspicious vessels in Bight of Benin	11
10.	"	Mar. 27	Aug. 9	1858	Measures respecting protection of fugitive slaves. Thanks of Mahomedan King of Bornu	12
11.	"	Mar. 28	Aug. 9	1858	Effects of British anti-slavery proceedings at Lagos. Commerce and opinions of natives respecting Slave Trade	12
12.	"	Apr. 7	Aug. 9	1858	Effects of revival of Slave Trade at Whydah. King of Dahomey and Kosoko	13
13.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Campbell	Aug. 4	..	1859	Receipt of despatches sunk in the "Candace"	14
14.	Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.	Feb. 3	Mar. 11	1859	Capture of "Juliet" and "Dorado." Influence of Slave Trade among Chiefs	14
15.	"	Feb. 4	Mar. 9	1859	Kosoko's hostility towards Lagos. Letter to Captain Sanderson, of Her Majesty's ship "Archer"	15
16.	"	Feb. 4	Mar. 11	1859	"Julia Dean," United States' barque, captured by United States' ship "Vincennes"	16
17.	"	Feb. 7	Mar. 11	1859	Funeral of Gezo, King of Dahomey. Slaughter of 800 persons at his obsequies	16

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

18.	Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Malmesbury	May 25	July 13	1858	List of slaves to whom emancipation papers have been granted	17
19.	"	May 26	July 13	1858	Palaver at Cameroons between Chiefs of Acqua and their slaves.	18
20.	"	May 30	Aug. 9	1858	Receipt of despatch of 16th February last. French emigration scheme.	19
21.	Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Malmesbury	Aug. 31	Oct. 12	1858	King Eyo Honesty's complaint against Mr. Matthews for taking 5 of his son's slaves	21

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Liberia*.

No.	Date.	Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page
22.	1858 May 10	1858 June 8	Correspondence in case of "Regina Cœli" .. .. .	23

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Sherbro*.

23.	1858 June 16	1858 July 14	Spaniards buying slaves at Gallinas.	30
24.	July 15	Aug. 9	Slave Trade at the Gallinas ..	30

## BRAZIL.

25.	1858 Feb. 17	1858 Apr. 18	Brazilian Government have taken steps to arrest Rivarozza, &c. ..	31
26.	Mar. 26	May 12	Slave Trade in River Plate. More war steamers wanted on coast ..	32
27.	Apr. 1	May 12	Brazilian Government will forbid export of slaves from one province to another .. .. .	33
28.	May 29	..	Arrival of Brazilian Consul-General at Loanda .. .. .	35
29.	Apr. 22	June 14	Liberation of Caroline and her children .. .. .	35
30.	May 3	June 14	Legality of transferring children born of slaves after Act of 1843..	36
31.	Aug. 31	..	Receipt of despatch of 3rd of May. Illegality of selling services of children born of slaves subsequent to Act of 1843 .. .. .	38
32.	Aug. 28	Oct. 3	16 more freed Africans stolen at Serinhaem recovered .. .. .	38
33.	Nov. 2	Dec. 6	Receipt of despatch of 31st August, respecting illegality of British subjects holding slaves. Correspondence with Mining Company ..	40
34.	Nov. 6	Dec. 6	Letter from Mr. Schofield respecting maintenance of children of slaves ..	44
35.	Nov. 8	Dec. 6	Slave Trade correspondence with Brazilian Government since October 8 .. .. .	44
36.	Nov. 29	1859 Jan. 6	Brazilian Government consider importation of slaves into northern provinces, <i>via</i> Guiana, an impossibility .. .. .	45
37.	1859 Feb. 5	..	Question of legality of transfer of slave-children belonging to Mining Association. Mr. Schofield's suggestion absurd .. .. .	46
38.	Jan. 7	Feb. 12	Extradition Treaty between Brazil and Argentine Confederation ratified	47

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Bahia*.

39.	1858 Mar. 31	1858 May 12	Lists of trade between Bahia and Africa, for first quarter of 1858 .	48
40.	Apr. 7	May 12	Receipt of despatch of 25th of February last. Farming out of emancipated Africans .. .. .	50
41.	June 30	Aug. 4	Quarterly lists of arrivals from, and departures to, African coast ..	50
42.	June 30	Aug. 4	Half-yearly return of prices of slaves	52
43.	Sept. 30	Nov. 4	Quarterly lists of arrivals from, and departures to, African coast ..	52
44.	Dec. 31	1859 Feb. 12	Half-yearly return of prices of slaves	54

## BRAZIL. (Consular)—Pará.

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
45. Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon .	Feb. 13	Apr. 19	Return of prices of slaves . . . . .	55
46. Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 30	Aug. 4	Half-yearly return of prices of slaves . . . . .	55
47. " " " " ..	Oct. 15	Dec. 2	Prosecution of a woman of rank for murder of a slave . . . . .	56
48. " " " " ..	Dec. 31	Feb. 12	Prices of slaves and Slave Trade Report .. .. .	57

## BRAZIL. (Consular)—Pernambuco.

	1858	1858		
49. Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon ..	Feb. 26	Apr. 19	Capture of 4 more Serinhaem Africans .. .. .	58
50. Consul Cowper to the Earl of Malmesbury .	Mar. 12	Apr. 19	Capture of 3 more Serinhaem Africans .. .. .	58
51. " " " " ..	Mar. 20	Apr. 19	Capture of 3 more Serinhaem Africans .. .. .	58
52. Acting Consul Gollan to the Earl of Malmesbury	Apr. 5	May 12	Slave Trade Report for first quarter of 1858 .. .. .	59
53. Acting Consul Needham to the Earl of Malmesbury	July 2	Aug. 4	No renewal of Slave Trade .. .. .	59
54. " " " " ..	July 2	Aug. 4	Prices of slaves in districts of Paraiba, Maceio, and Pernambuco .	59
55. " " " " ..	Oct. 5	Nov. 5	Quarterly return of prices of slaves.	61
56. " " " " ..	Oct. 5	Nov. 5	No revival of Slave Trade . . . . .	62
57. " " " " ..	Feb. 10	Mar. 5	Return of slaves at Pernambuco, &c. .. .. .	62

## BRAZIL. (Consular)—Rio Grande do Sul.

	1858	1858		
58. Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon ..	June 30	Sept. 3	Quarterly return of prices of slaves	64
59. " " " " ..	Dec. 31	Mar. 5	Ditto .. .. .	65

## BRAZIL. (Consular)—Rio de Janeiro.

	1858	1858		
60. Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon .	Mar. 12	Apr. 19	Receipt of despatch of Stñ ultimo. Mining Association slaves ..	66
61. Consul Westwood to the Earl of Malmesbury	Apr. 20	June 14	Arrivals from Africa for first quarter of 1858. No departures . . . . .	66
62. " " " " ..	May 10	June 4	Disposal of slaves of Imperial Brazilian Mining Association ..	68
63. " " " " ..	June 30	Aug. 4	Return of prices of slaves . . . . .	68
64. " " " " ..	July 2	Aug. 4	Traffic between Brazil and African coast for half-year ending June 30	69
65. " " " " ..	Oct. 2	Nov. 4	Ditto, for quarter ending September 30 .. .. .	71

## DENMARK.

	1859	1859		
66. Consul Lamb to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Feb. 10	Mar. 4	Spanish barque "Magstad," with 800 slaves, said to have been run ashore at Humacoa . . . . .	73

## FRANCE.

No.		Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
67.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	Apr. 1	..	Transmitting despatch to Consul-General Bell relative to slavery in Algeria .. .. .	74
68.	" "	Apr. 9	..	Despatches from Lord Napier and Consul Mure. Importation of negroes into United States ..	74
69.	" "	Apr. 14	..	Correspondence with Consul Lawless respecting Africans introduced into Martinique .. .. .	74
70.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	Apr. 14	Apr. 15	French scheme. Conversation with Count Walewski. Society of Friends .. .. .	75
71.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	Apr. 15	..	Despatch from Consul Mure. Rejection by Senate of Louisiana of African immigration scheme ..	75
72.	" "	Apr. 17	..	Consul McLeod's Memorandum on French scheme for procuring African labourers .. .. .	75
73.	" "	Apr. 30	..	Receipt of despatches of 23rd ultimo and 14th instant. French emigration scheme and right of visit. Despatches from Consul Campbell	76
74.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	May 4	May 5	Note to Count Walewski proposing a Commission to inquire into French scheme .. .. .	76
75.	" "	May 10	May 12	Reply of Count Walewski respecting French operations on coast of Africa .. .. .	77
76.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	May 15	..	Necessity of referring French emigration scheme to a Commission ..	78
77.	" "	May 18	..	Extracts of despatch from Mr. Campbell. No more slaves purchased at Whydah by Mr. Régis.	78
78.	" "	June 5	..	What is the opinion of the French Government respecting proposed Commission on French emigration scheme? .. .. .	79
79.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 22	June 24	Discrepancy between French and English versions of "Regina Cœli" case .. .. .	79
80.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	June 26	..	Despatch from Colonel Herman. Introduction of slaves into Algerine territory .. .. .	79
81.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 28	June 29	Count Walewski satisfied with statement of Her Majesty's Government in "Regina Cœli" case ..	80
82.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	July 16	..	Inclosure in Admiralty letter of July 13. Native boat, under French colours, boarded by "Vesuvius" .. .. .	80
83.	" "	July 20	..	Will France come to an understanding with England respecting right of search? .. .. .	80
84.	" "	July 20	..	Correspondence with Lord Napier, and General Cass's letter to Mr. Dallas respecting right of visit ..	82
85.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	July 24	July 25	Conversation with Count Walewski respecting right of visit, with reference to despatch of July 20 ..	82
86.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	July 26	..	Answer to despatch of 24th instant. Orders for ships of war respecting right of visit should be identical..	82
87.	" "	July 29	..	Mr. Gabriel's report respecting evil effects of French emigration scheme	83
88.	" "	Aug. 25	..	Despatch from Acting Consul-General Reade. Introduction of slaves into Algeria .. .. .	83
89.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	Sept. 6	Sept. 7	Duke of Malakoff empowered to make proposal respecting right of visit .. .. .	83
90.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley	Oct. 2	..	Despatch from Consul Plowden. King of Abyssinia's measures for checking export of slaves ..	83
91.	Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury	Oct. 3	Oct. 4	"Charles et Georges" .. .. .	84
92.	" "	Oct. 5	Oct. 5	"Charles et Georges." French decline arbitration .. .. .	84

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page	
94.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley ..	Oct. 23	..	Despatch from Governor of Windward Islands. Escape of French emigrants from Martinique ..	84
96.	" ..	Nov. 16	..	To communicate confidentially to French Government Sir F. Grey's report on Slave Trade ..	85
97.	" ..	Nov. 23	..	To communicate to Prince Napoleon Consul Lawless's despatch respecting coolie immigrants into Martinique ..	86
98.	" ..	Nov. 27	..	Two despatches from Commodore Wise respecting Slave Trade and French emigration scheme. ..	86
99.	" ..	Dec. 4	..	Despatches from Consul-General Reade, and Memorandum respecting Slave Trade in Algeria, &c... ..	86
100.	" ..	Dec. 4	..	Two despatches from East India Company's Agent at Zanzibar on French proceedings and emigration scheme ..	86
101.	" ..	Dec. 16	..	Extract of letter from Commander Hunt. His correspondence with Liberian Government respecting a French vessel shipping slaves from Liberian territory ..	87
102.	" ..	Dec. 16	..	British Agent at Zanzibar on French proceedings on East Coast of Africa ..	87
103.	" ..	Dec. 18	..	Consul Lawless's despatch of November 5. African labourers brought by "Lawrence" to Martinique ..	87
104.	" ..	Dec. 30 1859	..	French ship "Phoenix." Further report of Commander Hunt ..	87
106.	" ..	Jan. 11	..	Despatch from Consul Lawless. Arrival of more Africans in Martinique ..	88
108.	" ..	Feb. 17	..	"Van Dyck," with African labourers, arrived at Martinique ..	88
109.	" ..	Feb. 17	..	"Nicholas Poussin," with coolies, arrived at Martinique.. ..	88
110.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Viscount Chelsea	Feb. 26	..	French emigration scheme. Despatch from Commodore Wise ..	88

## FRANCE. (Consular)—Algiers.

	1858	1858			
111.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Bell	Apr. 1	..	Consul-General Herman's report on introduction of slaves into Algeria ..	89
112.	" ..	May 4	..	Despatch from Consul-General Herman relative to introduction of slaves into Algeria ..	89

## FRANCE. (Consular)—Martinique.

	1858	1858			
113.	Consul Lawless to the Earl of Clarendon ..	Feb. 28	Apr. 5	Treatment of African emigrants in Martinique ..	90
114.	Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury .	May 11	May 31	Official list of applications for African immigrants ..	94
115.	" ..	May 12	May 31	Return of coolies from India introduced into Martinique ..	94
116.	" ..	Oct. 13	Nov. 20	Arrival of a cargo of coolie emigrants from India ..	97
117.	" ..	Nov. 5	Dec. 16 1859	Arrival of 133 Africans, at Fort de France, in an American ship ..	98
118.	" ..	Dec. 13	Jan. 3	Arrival of 740 Africans, under Régis's contract, in the "Ville d'Aignes-Mortes" ..	99
119.	" ..	Jan. 27	Feb. 15	464 coolies arrived at Martinique from Pondichery ..	99
120.	" ..	Jan. 27	Feb. 15	278 African labourers arrived from West Coast of Africa ..	100



## PORTUGAL.

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
121. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Mar. 23	Apr. 5	Reasons in support of concession to Senhor Pedreira to transport 100 free negroes to San Thomé ..	101
122. " " " " ..	Mar. 23	Apr. 5	Boards of Guardians to apply funds to purchasing freedom of most industrious slaves ..	103
123. " " " " ..	Mar. 23	Apr. 5	Acknowledging receipt of despatches	104
124. " " " " ..	Mar. 28	Apr. 5	Slave-trader Derizanz has absconded	104
125. " " " " ..	Apr. 5	Apr. 14	Has informed Portuguese Government that Mr. McLeod has been called upon to substantiate his charges ..	105
126. " " " " ..	Apr. 7	Apr. 14	Minister of Justice referred to relative to forfeiture of Derizanz' bail	105
127. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Apr. 14	..	Approving his note to M. de Loulé respecting Derizanz. Responsibility of his escape rests with Portuguese Government ..	105
128. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Apr. 13	Apr. 18	Acknowledging receipt of despatch of 31st ultimo, respecting abolition of slavery..	106
129. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Apr. 24	..	Consul McLeod's Memorandum on free emigration scheme ..	106
130. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Apr. 18	Apr. 26	Satisfaction of Portuguese Government at despatch of March 31 to Mr. Howard ..	106
131. " " " " ..	Apr. 24	May 5	Portuguese Government's measures for forfeiture of Derizanz' recognizances ..	107
132. " " " " ..	May 3	May 12	Decree abolishing slavery in Portuguese African possessions in twenty years ..	107
133. " " " " ..	May 5	May 12	Further proceedings relative to Derizanz ..	108
134. " " " " ..	May 25	June 3	Judicial proceedings against consignee of slaver "Locomotora" ..	109
135. " " " " ..	May 31	June 14	Decision pronounced on Derizanz reversed ..	109
136. " " " " ..	June 7	June 14	Inquiry respecting Chief of Ambaça forcing free negroes to work ..	110
137. " " " " ..	June 7	June 14	Portaria restoring to liberty settlers at Licungo ..	110
138. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	July 6	..	Approving despatch of 7th ultimo ..	111
139. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Aug. 13	Aug. 23	Portaria relative to cessation of slavery in Cape Verds ..	111
140. " " " " ..	Aug. 20	Sept. 4	Portuguese vessel to cruize off Islands of St. Thomas and Prince, to prevent Slave Trade ..	112
141. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Sept. 6	..	Capture of "Minnetonka." To acquaint Portuguese authorities of proceedings of commander of "Zambesi" in that case ..	112
142. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Sept. 1	Sept. 15	Decree taxing slaves in Portuguese transmarine possessions ..	113
143. " " " " ..	Sept. 18	Sept. 24	Note to M. de Loulé respecting capture of "Minnetonku" ..	113
144. " " " " ..	Sept. 22	Oct. 3	Thanks of M. de Loulé for communication of capture of "Minnetonka" ..	114
146. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Oct. 8	..	Mr. Gabriel reports the refusal of Senhor Rodriguez to renew oath of office at Loanda ..	114
147. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Oct. 8	Oct. 8	French ships not to employ force. Unless Portugal yields French Minister will leave Lisbon. "Charles et Georges." ..	115
148. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Oct. 9	..	"Charles et Georges." British mediation offered. Prosecution should be dropped in case of informality ..	115
149. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Oct. 8	Oct. 14	Private conversation with French Minister. "Charles et Georges" ..	115
150. " " " " ..	Oct. 8	Oct. 14	Further respecting "Charles et Georges" ..	116
151. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Oct. 15	..	"Charles et Georges." Proposal for solving question ..	118

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
152. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Oct. 14	..	French delegate acknowledges that conditions prescribed by French Government were not observed in case of "Charles et Georges" ..	119
153. " " " ..	Oct. 15	Oct. 24	Note to M. de Loulé relative to refusal of Senhor Rodriguez to renew oath as Commissioner at Loanda .	119
154. " " " ..	Oct. 15	Oct. 24	Abstract of Portaria relative to improvement of means of transport in Angola .	120
155. " " " ..	Oct. 15	Oct. 24	Portaria relative to liberation of slaves of Island of St. Nicholas .	123
156. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Nov. 9	..	Despatch from Cape Commissioners respecting " <i>Flor de Moçambique</i> "	124
157. " " " ..	Nov. 16	..	Feeling in Angola relative to abolition of "serviço de carregadores"	124
158. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Nov. 22	Nov. 27	Note to M. de Loulé, asking why no mention is made of good offices of England in "Charles et Georges" affair ..	124
159. " " " ..	Nov. 27	Dec. 5	"Serviço de carregadores" ..	125
160. " " " ..	Nov. 28	Dec. 5	Note from M. de Loulé respecting Senhor Rodriguez' refusal to renew oath of office ..	125
161. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard ..	Feb. 7	1859 1859	" <i>Flor de Moçambique</i> " case terminated ..	126
162. Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Feb. 15	Feb. 22	Angola. Compulsory labour of negroes. Portaria of Governor-General ..	126
163. " " " ..	Feb. 12	Feb. 22	Mines at Bembe conceded to West Africa Malachite Company ..	127

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Mozambique.*

164. Consul Mc Leod to the Earl of Clarendon ..	1857 Dec. 7	1858 Apr. 14	Memorandum on French scheme for procuring African labourers ..	129
165. " " " ..	Oct. 30	June 3	Slavery at Ibo ..	130
166. " " " ..	Oct. 30	June 3	Boletim of Governor-General of Mozambique. Exportation of slaves as free labourers ..	131
167. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Mc Leod	1858 July 5	..	Liberation of 200 negro settlers at Licungo ..	132
168. Consul Mc Leod to the Earl of Malmesbury .	Feb. 15	Nov. 15	French free emigrant vessels. ..	132
169. " " " ..	1859 Jan. 20	1859 Jan. 25	Sentences passed on Senhor Leotte, and captain of "Zambesi," for communicating with " <i>Minnetonka</i> ," off Inhambane ..	132

## SPAIN.

170. Lord Howden to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	1858 Apr. 5	1858 Apr. 14	Note from M. de Isturiz respecting Cuban Slave Trade ..	135
171. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Howden ..	Apr. 17	..	Despatch from Consul-General Crawford. Capture of two slavers off Cuba ..	136
172. " " " ..	May 8	..	Despatches from Judge Crawford respecting Cuban Slave Trade ..	136
173. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan .	June 23	..	Despatches from Consul-General Crawford and Havana Commissioners respecting Cuban Slave Trade. Language which should be held to Spanish Government on the subject ..	136
174. " " " ..	June 24	..	Copy of despatch to Mr. Crawford, respecting communication he is to make to Captain-General of Cuba	138
175. Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	July 10	July 16	Conversation with M. Collantes respecting proceedings of British cruizers at Sagua la Grande ..	138
176. " " " ..	July 10	July 16	Spanish squadron off Cuba will be reinforced .	138

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
177.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan .	July 21	Disapprobation of Her Majesty's Government of conduct pursued by officer who boarded vessels at Sagua la Grande . . . . .	139
178.	"                    "                    " . .	July 21	Proceedings of British cruisers off Cuba, and increase of Slave Trade. Reports of Admiral Sir H. Stewart and Commanders Vesey and Peel .	139
179.	"                    "                    " . .	July 21	Consul-General Crawford's despatch respecting right of search off Cuba	139
180.	Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury .	Aug. 5	Receipt of despatch of 21st ultimo. Has communicated to Spanish Government regret of Her Majesty's Government at proceedings at Sagua la Grande . . . . .	140
182.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan .	Aug. 17	Suggesting means to Spanish Government for suppressing Slave Trade . . . . .	140
183.	"                    "                    " . .	Aug. 20	Despatch from Consul-General Crawford respecting Cuban Slave Trade . . . . .	141
184.	Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury . .	Aug. 30	Sept. 13 Copy of note to Spanish Government suggesting that fuller powers be given to Captain-General of Cuba for suppressing Slave Trade	141
185.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan .	Sept. 21	Correspondence with M. Conte respecting Spanish vessel "Don Juan" visited by British cruisers .	142
186.	"                    "                    " . .	Sept. 21	Mr. Crawford's conversation with Captain-General of Cuba respecting Cuban Slave Trade . . . . .	143
187.	Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury . .	Sept. 26	Oct. 1 Captain-General of Cuba has caused six slave-trading magistrates to be removed . . . . .	144
188.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan .	Oct. 23	Despatch from Mr. Crawford respecting Cuban Slave Trade . . . . .	144
189.	"                    "                    " . .	Oct. 23	Satisfaction at dismissal of six slave-trading magistrates . . . . .	144
191.	"                    "                    " . .	Oct. 23	"Mary Elizabeth" captured by Her Majesty's ship "Heron" . . . . .	145
192.	"                    "                    " . .	Oct. 26	Copy of note from Mr. Dallas. United States' Government will not prosecute claim for compensation in case of the "Cortes" . . . . .	145
193.	"                    "                    " . .	Oct. 26	Gratification at appointment of M. Isturiz. Her Majesty's Government's opinion as to conduct of Spain in relation to Cuban Slave Trade . . . . .	145
194.	Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury . .	Nov. 2	Nov. 13 Conversation with M. Collantes. Spanish Government disinclined to give further powers to Captain-General of Cuba . . . . .	146
195.	"                    "                    " . .	Nov. 2	Nov. 13 Has told M. Collantes of circumstances under which "Mary Elizabeth" was allowed to leave the Havana . . . . .	147
196.	"                    "                    " . .	Nov. 5	Nov. 13 Has read despatch of 26th ultimo to him to M. Collantes. Conversation on Slave Trade. Instructions to be given to General Concha . .	147
197.	"                    "                    " . .	Nov. 5	Nov. 13 Changes in the "Audiencia" of Cuba . . . . .	148
198.	"                    "                    " . .	Nov. 7	Nov. 13 Spanish Government will settle question of "Arrogante Emilio," and Sierra Leone Commission expenses, on terms proposed by Her Majesty's Government . . . . .	148
199.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan .	Nov. 18	.. "Ernesinda" visited by Her Majesty's ship "Styx" . . . . .	149
200.	"                    "                    " . .	Nov. 18	.. Despatches from Consul-General Crawford respecting Cuban Slave Trade . . . . .	150
201.	"                    "                    " . .	Dec. 16	.. Despatches from Consul-General Crawford respecting landing of 1,601 slaves in Cuba, and capture of a slaver by the "General Lezo" . . . . .	150

## LIST OF PAPERS.

xi

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
202. Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury	Dec. 9	Dec. 18	Has told Spanish Government that charges against Commander of "Styx" are unfounded .. ..	151
203. " " "	Dec. 9	Dec. 18	Conversation with M. Collantes respecting Cuban Slave Trade. General Ros de Olano will be next Captain-General .. ..	152
204. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan	Feb. 10	..	Despatches from Mr. Crawford respecting Cuban Slave Trade ..	152
205. Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury	Feb. 24	Mar. 4	M. Collantes denies increase of Cuban Slave Trade .. ..	153
206. The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan	Mar. 10	..	Inclosing despatch of March 10 to Consul Brackenbury, under flying seal. Persons engaged in "Majesté" slave transaction should be punished .. ..	153
207. Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury	Mar. 3	Mar. 12	Conversation with M. Comyn respecting General Concha's despatch on means of checking slave-trading	153

## SPAIN. (Consular)—Cadiz.

208. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Brackenbury	1858 Mar. 10	..	To institute inquiries respecting barque "Majesté" .. ..	155
---	-----------------	----	--	-----

## SPAIN. (Consular)—Havana.

	1858	1858		
209. Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon	Feb. 24	Apr. 19	Slave landing at Guanimar, and correspondence with Captain-General on the subject .. ..	156
210. " " "	Feb. 27	Apr. 19	Norwegian schooner "St. Olof" sailed for Africa .. ..	157
211. " " "	Feb. 27	Apr. 19	Satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at General Concha's anti-Slave Trade assurances .. ..	157
212. " " "	Feb. 28	Apr. 19	Translation of statement of criminal causes at Havana, in 1857, for Slave Trade offences .. ..	157
213. " " "	Mar. 2	Apr. 19	Seizure of 63 negroes, part of a slave cargo. Captain-General's difficulty in declaring captured negroes to be emancipados .. ..	158
214. " " "	Mar. 24	Apr. 19	Capture of two slavers .. ..	159
215. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	May 27	..	Approving despatch of 24th of February last, and requesting information respecting owners claiming abandoned slave brigantine .. ..	159
216. " " "	May 29	..	Copy of despatch from Mr. Scarlett respecting proceedings in River Plate .. ..	159
217. Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	May 2	May 31	Revival of trade in Yucatan Indians	160
218. " " "	May 8	May 31	Letter to Captain-General denouncing slave landings, with connivance of authorities .. ..	161
219. " " "	May 9	May 31	Informalities committed by British cruizers. More British vessels wanted to suppress Slave Trade .	162
220. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	June 11	..	To urge Captain-General to adopt more stringent measures to prevent vessels from fitting for Slave Trade .. ..	164
222. " " "	June 11	..	Proceedings of British cruizers at Sagua la Grande .. ..	165
223. Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 9	July 3	Boarding of United States' vessels by British cruizers. Letter to Lord Napier .. ..	165

No.		Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
224.	Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 9	July 3	Correspondence with Captain-General respecting limits of visit and search by British cruisers off Cuba .. .. .	166
225.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	July 21	..	Spain intends increasing squadron off Cuba .. .. .	168
226.	" " " " " "	July 31	..	Copies of correspondence with Mr. Buchanan respecting Cuban Slave Trade .. .. .	168
227.	Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 17	Aug. 2	Correspondence with Captain-General respecting cruisers furnished with warrants on Cuba station ..	168
228.	" " " " " "	June 24	Aug. 2	Receipt of despatch of 27th ultimo. Derelict brig "Crimea" claimed, after having landed a cargo of slaves near Batabano .. ..	170
229.	" " " " " "	June 25	Aug. 2	Slave-trading acts in Cuba of Riva-roza and De Castro .. ..	170
230.	" " " " " "	July 1	Aug. 2	Landing of slaves near Baracoa ..	170
231.	" " " " " "	July 1	Aug. 2	Withdrawal of British cruisers from Cuba, and extensive outfits for slave-trading .. ..	171
232.	" " " " " "	July 2	Aug. 2	900 slaves landed at Cardenas ..	172
233.	" " " " " "	July 8	Aug. 1	Sailing and fitting out of United States' slavers .. ..	172
234.	" " " " " "	July 22	Aug. 14	Seizure of "Lyra" at Key West; raising of "A. C. Perkins;" seizure of "Nancy;" sailing of "Juliet" and "Rufus Soulé," for coast of Africa .. ..	172
235.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	Aug. 31	..	Despatch to Mr. Buchanan respecting Cuban Slave Trade .. ..	17
236.	" " " " " "	Aug. 31	..	Answer to despatch of 3rd of February last. Inhabitants of Caymans and United States' Consul there not engaged in Slave Trade. Did the case of the "N. Hand" give rise to the supposition? ..	174
237.	Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	July 28	Sept. 1	Receipt of despatch of 11th ultimo. Interview with Captain-General on subject of Slave Trade ..	175
238.	" " " " " "	Aug. 2	Sept. 1	Answer to despatch of 11th of June. Slaver "Cortes" .. ..	175
239.	" " " " " "	Aug. 3	Sept. 1	United States' Consul-General's unfounded statement respecting espionage exercised over United States' vessels by British cruisers.	177
240.	" " " " " "	Aug. 7	Sept. 1	"Fannie," "Zephyr," and "Castor," suspected slavers, returned to United States, and "J. W. Reid" sailed for Africa .. ..	177
241.	" " " " " "	Aug. 28	Sept. 18	Capture, by "Dolphin," of slaver brig, under United States' colours, called the "Echo" alias "Putnam" .. ..	177
242.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	Sept. 21	..	Receipt of despatch of 28th of July last. Approve language to Captain-General .. ..	178
243.	Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	Sept. 1	Oct. 2	Receipt of despatch of 21st of July last. Relative to increase of Spanish naval forces off Cuba, for suppressing Slave Trade .. ..	178
244.	" " " " " "	Sept. 3	Oct. 2	Answer to despatch of 31st July last. Suggesting measures for suppressing Cuban Slave Trade ..	178
245.	" " " " " "	Sept. 24	Nov. 1	Correspondence with Captain-General respecting landing of 303 Bozals from the "Haidee," near Cardenas .. ..	179
246.	" " " " " "	Sept. 25	Nov. 1	Answer to despatch of 31st August last. Cuban Slave Trade .. ..	180
247.	" " " " " "	Sept. 27	Nov. 1	Answer to despatch of 31st August last. Charge against Mr. Eden and inhabitants of the Caymans, on charge of abetting Slave Trade.	180
248.	" " " " " "	Sept. 27	Nov. 1	Stranded slaver "Iberia" towed into Havana harbour .. ..	181

No.	Date.	Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page
	1858	1858		
249. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	Nov. 1	..	Mr. Gabriel reports escape of "Charlotte" and other vessels ..	181
250. " " " "	Nov. 30	..	Conversations of Mr. Buchanan with Spanish Minister, respecting investiture of Captain-General with additional powers ..	182
251. " " " "	Dec. 17	..	Brazilian vessel "Santo" fitted out for Slave Trade ..	182
252. " " " "	Dec. 27	..	Mr. Buchanan's conversation with M. Collantes respecting Cuban Slave Trade, and change of Captain-General in Cuba ..	182
		1859		
253. Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury	Nov. 30	Jan. 3	United States' ships "Ardennes," "Enterprise," and "Mianus," suspected slavers, have sailed ..	182
254. " " " "	Nov. 30	Jan. 3	Remarks on Slave Trade under United States' flag, as described in Mr. Gabriel's despatch of 25th August last ..	183
255. " " " "	Dec. 1	Jan. 3	Re-opening of port of Zarza to foreign commerce, formerly closed on account of Slave Trade ..	183
256. " " " "	Dec. 25	Feb. 2	Receipt of despatch of 1st November last respecting "Charlotte," "Putnam," &c., slavers, and arrival of "Ellen," with cargo of Bozals, landed near Cardenas ..	183
257. " " " "	Dec. 27	Feb. 2	Receipt of despatch of 30th ultimo. Cuban Slave Trade ..	184
258. " " " "	Dec. 28	Feb. 2	Receipt of despatch of 30th ultimo. Remarks respecting additional powers for Captain-General of Cuba ..	184
259. " " " "	Dec. 29	Feb. 2	Correspondence with Captain-General respecting slave-landings in district of Cardenas ..	185
260. " " " "	Dec. 31	Feb. 2	Slave-landings at Remedios and Cardenas ..	186
		1859		
261. " " " "	Jan. 24	Mar. 4	Receipt of despatch of 17th December last, respecting Brazilian ship "Santo" ..	187
262. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford	Mar. 19	..	Consul Campbell's report respecting capture of "Juliet" and "Dorado." Slave Trade in the Bights ..	187

## SPAIN. (Consular)—Porto Rico.

263. Consul Hunt to the Earl of Malmesbury	1858 Sept. 25	1858 Oct. 15	Master and crew of "Paquete" acquitted, and vessel ordered to be restored to owners ..	188
264. " " " "	1859 Feb. 12	1859 Mar. 4	Barque "Majesté," with cargo of Africans, grounded off Humacao, and seized by authorities ..	189
265. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Hunt	Mar. 16	..	To report steps taken by Spanish authorities relative to barque "Majesté," and her crew ..	189

## SPAIN. (Consular)—Teneriffe.

266. Consul Murray to the Earl of Malmesbury	1858 Apr. 27	1858 June 14	Release of master and crew of "Conchita" ..	190
--	-----------------	-----------------	---	-----

## TRIPOLI.

No.		Date.	Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page
		1858	1858		
267.	Consul-General Herman to the Earl of Malmesbury	Apr. 5	Apr. 19	Slave Trade north of Sahara and frontier of Algeria .. ..	191
268.	" "	Apr. 9	Apr. 19	Infraction of firman forbidding exportation of slaves .. ..	191
270.	" "	May 5	May 20	Slave Report from Bengazi ..	193
272.	" "	May 22	June 10	Nature of commercial relations between Ghat and Algeria .. ..	195
273.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Herman	July 19	..	Despatch from Mr. Alison respecting Turkish measures for suppression of Slave Trade in Tripoli ..	195
274.	Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury	July 20	Aug. 9	Introduction of slaves into Algerine territory .. ..	195
275.	" "	July 20	Aug. 9	Impost levied on slaves in Tripoli	196
276.	" "	Aug. 16	Sept. 4	Receipt of despatch of 19th ultimo. Vizirial letters on Slave Trade to Pasha of Tripoli and Governor of Bengazi .. ..	196
277.	" "	Aug. 16	Sept. 4	Infraction at Bengazi of firman preventing Slave Trade .. ..	197
278.	" "	Sept. 8	Oct. 1	Ditto. Depositions .. ..	198
279.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul-General Reade	Oct. 12	..	Approving proceedings .. ..	199
280.	Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury	Sept. 28	Oct. 14	Continuation of Slave Trade between Soudan and Egypt	199
281.	" "	Sept. 28	Oct. 14	Slave Trade between Ghat and Algeria .. ..	200

## TURKEY.

		1858	1858		
		May 4	..		
282.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Alison ..	May 4	..	India Board letters of April 8 and 14. Slave Trade at Massowah and on African coast .. ..	201
283.	Mr. Alison to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	May 5	May 14	Importation of slaves at Tripoli by the "Feizi Bahri" .. ..	202
284.	" "	May 21	June 4	Porte's measures to stop Slave Trade in province of Jeddah .. ..	202
285.	" "	June 7	June 18	Vizirial letters to Governors of Bengazi and Tripoli respecting abolition of Slave Trade .. ..	203
286.	" "	June 11	June 25	Suppression of Slave Trade in Tripoli Regency .. ..	203
287.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Sir H. Bulwer..	Oct. 12	..	Governor-General of Tripoli's impost on slaves reported by Acting Consul-General Reade. What has he done? .. ..	204
288.	" "	Oct. 12	..	Bengazi infraction of Slave Trade Treaty reported by Acting Consul-General Reade. What has he done?	204
289.	Sir H. Bulwer to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Nov. 9	Nov. 22	Porte promises to send strict orders to Massowah and Tripoli to suppress Slave Trade .. ..	204
290.	" "	Nov. 12	Nov. 23	Negroes embarked at Tripoli destined for marines in Turkish navy	205
291.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Sir H. Bulwer..	Nov. 30	..	Copy of Acting Consul-General Reade's despatch respecting Egyptian Slave Trade. .. ..	205
292.	" "	Nov. 30	..	Slave Trade proceedings and outrageous language of Turkish Governor at Massowah. To demand his dismissal .. ..	205
293.	Sir H. Bulwer to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Dec. 2	Dec. 17	Vizirial letter to Governor of Tripoli prohibiting black Slave Trade ..	206
294.	" "	Feb. 8	Feb. 18	Governor-General of Tripoli carries out anti-Slave Trade measures as ordered by his Government ..	207

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Abyssinia*.

No.	Date.	Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page
	1858	1858		
295. Consul Plowden to the Earl of Clarendon ..	Mar. 20	Sept. 15	King confiscates slave caravans, frees slaves, and forbids Slave Trade .. .. .	208
296. " " " ..	June 1	Aug. 9	Slave Trade at Massowah. Trade encouraged by Pasha at Jeddah .	208

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Bagdad*.

297. Consul-General Kemball to the Earl of Clarendon	1858 Mar. 16	1858 Apr. 19	Slave Trade at Bagdad .. .. .	209
298. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Kemball	May 4	..	Answer to the above. Approve Omer Pasha's measures respecting Slave Trade .. .. .	210

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Canea in Crete*.

299. Consul Ongley to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	1858 Apr. 21	1858 May 28	Reply to Earl of Clarendon's despatch of February 16, respecting Ottoman schooner "Rahmaniye".	211
300. The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Ongley..	May 31	..	To continue to watch the "Rahmaniye" .. .. .	211
301. Consul Ongley to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	June 30	Aug. 4	Receipt of the above .. .. .	211

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Egypt*.

302. Acting Consul-General Green to the Earl of Malmesbury	1858 Oct. 16	1858 Oct. 30	Slave Trade carried on in Province of Toka .. .. .	212
303. The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul-General Green	Nov. 30	..	Consul-General Reade's despatch respecting Slave Trade between Soudan and Egypt .. .. .	212
304. " " " ..	Nov. 30	..	Approving language to Egyptian Government. Connivance of authorities in Kassala Slave Trade.	212
305. Acting Consul-General Green to the Earl of Malmesbury	Dec. 31	1859 Jan. 15	Receipt of the above .. .. .	213
306. " " " ..	Dec. 31	1859 Jan. 15	Receipt of despatch of 30th ultimo respecting Slave Trade in Egypt..	213
307. " " " ..	Jan. 5	Jan. 15	Assurance from Egyptian Government that orders against Slave Trade will be enforced .. .. .	

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Jerusalem*.

308. Consul Finn to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	1858 May 26	1858 June 12	Sureya Pasha has released some slaves belonging to one Abderrahman .. .. .	214
---	----------------	-----------------	--	-----

TURKEY (*Consular*)—*Monastir*.

309. Acting Consul Blunt to the Earl of Malmesbury	1858 Apr. 30	1858 May 24	Twenty negroes brought to Monastir by Ahmet Pasha .. .. .	215
310. The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul Blunt	May 31	..	Approving his proceedings in relation to the above .. .. .	217
311. Acting Consul Blunt to the Earl of Malmesbury	June 8	June 28	Slave Trade in Monastir .. .. .	217
312. " " " ..	June 15	July 12	Result of representations to authorities respecting Slave Trade in Monastir . . . . .	219



## UNITED STATES.

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page
313. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	May 11	May 24	United States' Government demand redress for conduct of Commander of "Styx" off Cuba .. ..	221
314. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	May 31	..	Letter from Rear-Admiral Sir F. Grey to United States' Commander-in-chief on West Coast of Africa respecting slavers under United States' colours .. ..	222
315. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	May 17	May 31	Proceedings of Her Majesty's ship "Styx." Extracts from American newspapers .. ..	223
316. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	June 4	..	The "Cortes" had neither colours nor papers when taken. Extract of Commodore Kellett's report ..	229
317. " " " " ..	June 4	..	Case of "N. B. Borden." Inquiries will be made. Right of visit ..	229
318. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	May 25	June 7	Importation of free black labourers into United States .. ..	230
319. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	June 11	..	Capture of the "Marshall" off African coast. No colours or papers .. ..	230
320. " " " " ..	June 15	..	List of captured vessels, supposed American, arrived at Sierra Leone for adjudication .. ..	230
321. " " " " ..	June 18	..	Extracts from log of "Jaseur." Vessels boarded by her .. ..	231
322. " " " " ..	June 21	..	Extracts from letter of Commodore Wise. Particulars of capture of "Almeida" and "Robert M. Charlton" .. ..	231
323. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	June 8	June 21	United States' Consul at Havana denounces abuse of United States' flag to cover Slave Trade ..	231
324. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	June 25	..	Copy of letter to Mr. Dallas of June 24 .. ..	232
325. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	June 10	June 28	United States' Government has remonstrated with Spanish Government against Cuban Slave Trade.	233
326. " " " " ..	June 21	July 5	Receipt of despatch of 4th of June. Conversation with General Cass on right of search, &c. .. ..	233
327. " " " " ..	June 21	July 5	Commodore Kellett's letter about the "Cortes" .. ..	234
328. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	July 9	..	Commander Vesey on proceedings of British cruizers on Cuban coast. Condemnation of "Cortes" ..	234
329. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	June 27	July 11	Correspondence with Admiral Sir H. Stewart and with General Cass on visit of American ships .. ..	239
330. " " " " ..	June 30	July 17	Secretary Cobb on African apprenticeship .. ..	240
331. The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	July 16	..	Boarding of United States' ship "Goldfinch," and capture of "Lydia Gibbs" .. ..	241
332. " " " " ..	July 29	..	Extract of despatch from Mr. Gabriel respecting Slave Trade under United States' flag .. ..	241
333. " " " " ..	Aug. 13	..	Boarding of American vessel "Warren White" by Her Majesty's ship "Hecla" .. ..	241
334. " " " " ..	Sept. 1	..	Commodore Wise on Slave Trade under United States' flag on West Coast of Africa .. ..	241
335. " " " " ..	Sept. 3	..	Consul-General Crawford reports "Cortes" had no right to hoist United States' flag .. ..	242
336. " " " " ..	Sept. 3	..	Consul-General Crawford's despatch relative to United States' Consul at Havana's charge of espionage against British cruizers .. ..	242
337. " " " " ..	Sept. 17	..	"Angeline of Prospect" captured by "Conflict," and condemned at St. Helena .. ..	242
338. Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Sept. 14	Sept. 27	Disposal of negroes captured by United States' ship "Dolphin" ..	242

No.	Date. 1858	Receipt. 1858	SUBJECT.	Page	
339.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	Sept. 30	..	Boarding of "John Gilpin" by "Conflict" .. .. .	243
340.	" ..	Oct. 15	..	"Venus" boarded by "Antelope." Lieutenant Pike's observations ..	243
341.	" ..	Oct. 22	..	Copies of letter from Admiralty, and despatches from Mr. Gabriel, respecting boarding and capture of slavers .. .. .	243
342.	" ..	Oct. 28	..	Mr. Dallas' letter of October 25. United States give up claim on account of seizure of "Cortes" ..	244
343.	" ..	Nov. 12	..	Boarding of "Ellen" and "Wanderer" by Her Majesty's ship "Medusa" .. .. .	245
344.	" ..	Dec. 3	..	Despatch from Admiral Grey on African Slave Trade for communication to General Cass. Right of visit .. .. .	246
345.	" ..	Dec. 15	..	Letter to Mr. Dallas of December 14. Abuse of American flag to cover Slave Trade .. .. .	246
346.	Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Dec. 6	Dec. 20	No bill found by South Carolina jury in case of "Echo" or "Putnam" .. .. .	247
347.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	Dec. 23	..	Mr. Dallas' letter of December 19. Reply to letter respecting abuse of American flag .. .. .	250
348.	Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Dec. 20	Jan. 2	Rumoured attempt to revive Slave Trade in Georgia. "Wanderer" ..	250
349.	" ..	Dec. 27	Jan. 10	African Slave Trade. Motions in Senate .. .. .	252
350.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	Jan. 14	..	Mr. Gabriel's reports respecting capture of "Brothers" by "Marion," and escape of "Wanderer" with slaves .. .. .	252
351.	" ..	Jan. 14	..	Boarding of "Henry," "Anglo-Saxon," and "Hazard" .. .. .	252
352.	" ..	Jan. 21	..	"Mary Elizabeth" captured by "Heron." Correspondence between Commander Brent and Commodore Wise .. .. .	253
353.	" ..	Jan. 21	..	Despatch from Mr. Gabriel respecting shipment of slaves from Congo by "Wanderer," "Ellen," and "Venus." United States' flag, &c. .. .. .	253
354.	Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Jan. 8	Jan. 25	United States' Government will strive to prevent prostitution of its flag ..	253
355.	" ..	Jan. 18	Jan. 31	Senator Seward's Bill for more effectual suppression of Slave Trade .. .. .	254
356.	" ..	Jan. 24	Feb. 7	Measures for repressing Slave Trade to be taken by United States ..	256
357.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	Feb. 11	..	United States' steamers for African coast. Remonstrance of United States and Great Britain against Cuban Slave Trade .. .. .	256
358.	" ..	Feb. 15	..	Suspected United States' slavers. Commodore Wise's report .. .. .	257
359.	" ..	Feb. 28	..	Correspondence with Mr. Dallas respecting "Anglo-Saxon" .. .. .	257
360.	Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Feb. 15	Feb. 28	True bill found against Captain Corrie, of "Wanderer," and others .. .. .	259
361.	The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier ..	Mar. 4	..	Boarding of "Panchita" by Her Majesty's ship "Pluto" .. .. .	259
362.	" ..	Mar. 17	..	Boarding of "J. W. Reid" by Her Majesty's ship "Conflict" .. .. .	259
363.	" ..	Mar. 18	..	Prostitution of United States' flag. General Cass to Mr. Dallas .. .. .	259
364.	Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury ..	Mar. 6	Mar. 22	Conversation with General Cass respecting right of search .. .. .	265

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Charleston.*

No.	Date.	Receipt.	SUBJECT.	Page
365.	1858 May 31	1858 June 21	Proposal to bring African emigrants to the United States .. ..	266
366.	" Aug. 28	" Sept. 13	Capture by "Dolphin" of American slaver with 318 slaves .. ..	269
367.	" Sept. 14	" Sept. 27	Disposal of slaves rescued by "Dolphin." Action of United States' authorities. Negroes to be sent to Liberia .. ..	269
368.	" Sept. 25	" Oct. 11	Africans rescued by "Dolphin" returned to Africa .. ..	270
369.	" Dec. 13	" Jan. 3	Case of slaver "Echo." Refusal of grand jury to find a true bill ..	270
370.	" 1859 Jan. 12	" 1859 Jan. 31	"Brothers" indicted for slave-trading .. ..	271

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Galveston.*

371.	1858 Apr. 6	1858 May 4	Act to permit blacks to choose their masters, and become slaves, passed in Texas Legislature ..	272
------	----------------	---------------	---	-----

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*New Orleans.*

372.	1858 Mar. 18	1858 Apr. 9	African Importation Bill rejected in Senate .. ..	274
------	-----------------	----------------	---	-----

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Savannah.*

373.	1859 Jan. 12	1859 Jan. 31	Seizure of "Wanderer" for slave-trading .. ..	275
374.	" Feb. 14	" Mar. 9	"Wanderer." True bill against her master and crew .. ..	275
375.	" Feb. 15	" Mar. 9	"Angelina." True bill against her outfitters .. ..	276
376.	" Mar. 1	" Mar. 22	"Wanderer." Condemnation of yacht slaver .. ..	276

# Class B.

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## CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

## FOREIGN POWERS.

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

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No. 1.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

*Lagos February 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit my report of the trade of Lagos and of the Bight of Benin for the year 1857.

The exports from this place can be ascertained with tolerable exactness through the amount of duties paid on each article exported; the amount of palm oil in particular can be regarded as correct, as it is not easy to smuggle so bulky an article on board ship. Ivory, it is feared, is often sent on board in small quantities without paying duty.

The quantities exported from Benin River, Palma, and Badagry, are a pretty close approximation, my calculations being formed on the number and tonnage of the vessels that have taken cargoes at those places, and my estimate of the quantities of palm oil shipped from Porto Novo and the ports to windward as far as Quittah, are, I am sure, well within the estimate I have formed, judging from the number and tonnage of British and other vessels known to have taken cargoes from those ports.

There is no duty paid on the export of cotton from Lagos. One of the arguments used by me with King Docemo, when urging him and his Chiefs to employ some of their numerous people in cultivating the cotton-plant, instead of permitting them to prowl about robbing industrious people, is, that when the exportation of cotton from Lagos becomes considerable, it may bear the levying of a small duty, which will tend to increase his revenues. So long as Slave Trade exists, even in occasional revivals, this class of people, Kings and Chiefs, will always hold on to the hope of its ultimate general resumption, and argue that, as their fathers never cultivated cotton, there is no occasion for them to do so. The spread of cotton, cultivation, like civilization, must radiate from, and reach the seaboard countries through, the superior and more intelligent and well-disposed people of the interior. Neither civilization nor the peaceful occupation of agriculture will ever spread from the seaboard towards the interior; the pernicious influences of the Slave Trade for centuries past have left too deep an impression on the

natives near the sea-coast to expect assistance from them in carrying out any good object.

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

Inclosure in No. 1.

*Report of the Trade of Lagos and of the Bight of Benin for the Year 1857.*

THERE has been shipped from the Port of Lagos during the year 1857, as under :—

13,097 casks of palm oil, containing 4,942 tuns, value ..	£	222,390
1,053 elephant tusks, weighing 24,118 lbs. ..	..	4,220
868 bales of cotton, weighing 114,848 lbs. ..	..	3,590
		<hr/>
50,000 cotton cloths, of native manufacture ..	..	230,100
		<hr/>
		25,000
		<hr/>
		£255,100
Total value of exports from Lagos ..		
Palm oil :—	Tuns.	
From the Benin River ..	2,650	
Palma ..	3,250	
Badagry ..	1,250	
Porto Novo, Appi Vista, &c. ..	4,500	
Whydah ..	2,500	
Aghwey and neighbouring ports ..	2,500	
	<hr/>	
	16,650 tuns, value	£732,600
150,000 country cloths, of native manufacture, from above ports		75,000
		<hr/>
		£1,062,700

Of the above productions there was shipped from Lagos in the year 1856-57 :—

	1856.	1857.	Increase.
Palm oil ..	3,884 tuns	4,942 tuns	1,058 tuns
Ivory ..	16,057 lbs.	24,118 lbs.	8,061 lbs.
Cotton ..	34,491 lbs.	114,844 lbs.	81,353 lbs.

Palm oil from other ports :—

	1856.	1857.	Increase.
	Tuns.	Tuns.	Tuns.
Benin River ..	2,500	2,650	150
Palma ..	2,250	3,250	1,000
Badagry ..	1,250	1,250	..
Porto Novo, &c. ..	4,000	4,500	500
Whydah ..	2,500	2,500	..
Aghwey, &c. ..	1,800	2,500	700
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
From Lagos ..	14,300	16,650	2,350
	3,884	4,942	1,058
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total shipment in 1857 ..		21,592	3,408

Of this quantity about 13,172 tuns went to England in English, Sardinian, and Portuguese vessels; about 4,200 tuns to Germany in Hamburg vessels, 300 tuns to Portugal, 220 tuns to Spain, 600 tuns to the United States, and 600 tuns to Holland, in vessels bearing the national flags of those countries.

Although the above figures show a satisfactory result on the last year's trade of this place, I had reason to anticipate one more satisfactory; for, during the first six months of the year 1857, nearly 3,000 tons of palm oil were shipped from Lagos beach, which, with the quantity on hand ready for shipment on 1st July, 1857, was equal to the total exports of palm oil for the year 1856. There would also have been a more satisfactory increase in the export of cotton, but for a fire which occurred in Abbeokuta that destroyed a large quantity in a cleaned state, and some with the seed; and the revival of Slave Trade at Whydah, which drew large numbers of the people of Abbeokuta from their peaceful employments to go to war, or rather to catch slaves, the ill effects of which are felt to this very hour.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Lagos, February 2, 1858.

No. 2.

Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 22.)

(Extract)

Lagos, March 1, 1858.

I EMBARKED from this on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," on an official visit to the trading establishments in the Benin river, on the 9th of last month, and disembarked on the 21st.

I regret to have to report to your Lordship, that I found the relations between the factories in the Benin river, and a portion of the native people in a very unsatisfactory state.

Shortly after the "Bloodhound" came to an anchor, I was waited on by Mr. James Snape, the agent for Messrs. Charles Horsfall and Sons, of Liverpool, who complained that one of the large schooner-rigged launches belonging to that firm, had been piratically seized and detained, when sent some distance up the river to obtain fresh water for the use of the factory, by a trader named Smart, belonging to the town of Jacqua, who had treated most cruelly a Krooman, one of the crew of the launch; that he, Mr. Snape, had made complaint to Jerry, the Chief of Jacqua, and had called upon him to obtain restitution of the launch, but that Jerry had made no effort to do so.

I at once sent a message to the Chief, Jerry, that I wished to see him the next morning at Messrs. Horsfall's factory on the subject of this seizure, and he accordingly made his appearance, when I reproached him with neglecting his duty towards the British Factory, by not having immediately made Smart, who is one of Jerry's followers, or, as he is there styled, one of his boys, restore the launch, and I called upon Jerry to obtain restoration of it without delay; this he promised to do, saying he would arm two large canoes, and if Smart would not give up the launch peaceably, he would take it from him forcibly. The afternoon of the same day Jerry was seen to proceed up the river with two heavily armed canoes; but, as the creek in which Smart had concealed the launch, and in which it was stated he had built a large house, is situated some thirty miles up the river, and as Jerry returned from his expedition during the night, great doubts were entertained whether he had gone so far as Smart's Creek, which doubts were increased by Jerry sending me a message on board the "Bloodhound" the following morning, that Smart had abandoned the creek, taking the launch with him, and the messenger returning immediately, I began to ask questions of him, implying a doubt whether Jerry had gone to the creek.

As the seizure of this launch and the cruel treatment of the Krooman, were outrages which could not be passed over without notice, and for which there appeared to exist no justifiable excuse, I applied officially to Lieutenant Robson, commanding the "Bloodhound," to proceed up the river, and to make an effort to recover the launch, Mr. Snape and a Mr. Hearne, of Messrs. Harrison & Co.'s establishment, volunteering to accompany us; the latter gentleman having, in company with Mr. McKay, the chief agent in Benin river of Messrs. Harrison, a few weeks previously visited Smart at his house up the creek. Lieutenant Robson complying with my request, we started early the next morning up the river, anchoring off the creek about half-past 10 o'clock; the boats, as a matter of precaution (very necessary as it turned out), were armed, and proceeded up the creek, Lieutenant Robson, accompanied by Mr. Hearne, preceding, in the gig, the other boats. On ascending the creek, some cannon were perceived placed in battery, but masked by branches of trees, and on proceeding further, another battery of six guns, completely commanding the creek, was observed with men behind it, holding fire-sticks, ready to fire

off the guns; but on Lieutenant Robson standing in the bow of the boat, and telling the men not to fire, as he had come to seek an interview with Smart, they retired: but on the boat proceeding a little further up, it was found that some large trees had been felled to fall across the creek, which obstructed further progress; and immediately after a heavy gun, with volleys of musketry, was fired from an ambush on the gig, killing, I regret to state, one Marine and one of the Kroo boys employed in paddling the boat, and wounding three other Marines and one Kroo boy. On this the men were landed, and with their Minié rifles drove the natives into the bush upon some of their number falling. Lieutenant Robson then desired Mr. Rickards, Master's Assistant of the "Bloodhound," in charge of the jolly boat, to destroy the battery which commanded the creek: this was effected; two of the guns being put into the jolly boat, and the other four, in consequence of their great weight, were thrown into the deep mud of the creek. The party then returned to the ship, and in the afternoon the "Bloodhound" returned to her anchorage off the factories.

On the following morning an officer was sent to the Chief, Jerry, requesting his attendance on board the "Bloodhound," to explain his conduct, which appeared very suspicious, and led to the conclusion that he was in league with Smart.

Considering, from the hostile and suspicious conduct of the Chief, Jerry, the very man appointed by the late Consul Beecroft to protect the British traders, that the large amount of property on shore, particularly that of Messrs. Harrison & Co's., which is situated on Jerry's side of the river, was in an exposed state, I addressed a letter, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, separately to the agents, requesting them to favour me with their opinion on this point, and also what measures they could suggest, the adoption of which, would tend to give greater security to the property at the factories.

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the joint reply of Messrs. Snape and McKay, to my letter, addressed to them separately.

The suggestion contained in this letter, to appoint Abrimoney, Chief of Batará, the Governor, or rather the protector of the British factories, was carried out, and an agreement to that effect was formally concluded between that Chief and myself, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," a copy of which I have the honour to transmit; the other suggestion of the agents I shall not fail to lay before Admiral Grey or Commodore Wise. I must inform your Lordship that Jerry is a representative of the old Slave Trade Chiefs, who formerly, as subordinates to the Kings of Benin and Warree, conducted Slave Trade transactions with the supercargoes of slave vessels visiting the Benin river, under French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Brazilian colours; and that Abrimoney and his numerous followers were formerly the confidential slaves of the Kings of Warree, who, whether foreseeing a break-up of the Warree family, or from a desire to become their own masters, had, prior to the death of the last King of Warree, commenced building a town at the head of a creek, on the left or south side of the Benin river, above Messrs. Horsfall's establishment. Since the death of the last King of Warree, Abrimoney and his numerous followers have altogether made Batará their place of residence; they are considered, on the whole, as by far the most industrious traders, and have shown a good disposition to meet their trading engagements with the factory agents. This class of people, emancipated from slavery, in Benin, as elsewhere in Africa, regard with respect the English, as opponents of slavery and the Slave Trade.

There was one circumstance which this affair in Smart's Creek brought prominently to notice, which I feel bound to report to your Lordship, in order that a strong representation from Her Majesty's Government may be made to the Liverpool firms trading in the Bights of Benin and Biafra, to discontinue so improper and suicidal a practice. The very cannon and bullets with which Smart killed and wounded the Marines and Kroomen of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," had been imported by the English factories, and sold to this fellow, and other natives, as merchandize. On my protesting against the sale of such munitions of war to the natives, Mr. Snape, Messrs. Horsfall's agent, remarked that he had in store some 200 of the cannon, 2-pounders to 6-pounders, unsold, and that his predecessor, Mr. Chestham, had lately imported for a favourite trader, several hundredweight of leaden bullets. The importation of trade muskets and gunpowder is mischievous enough, and is now probably difficult to discontinue; but the importation of cannon for sale to the natives, with shot to use with them, is most improper, and leads not only to the frequent interruption of commerce, by arming the natives one against the other, but to the natives using these cannon and munitions against British lives and property. The Chief, Abrimoney, on signing the agreement, begged me to prevent any more such importations into the Benin river, remarking, that when a boy, young men like Smart, purchased a canoe and four

cannon to arm it, he considered himself in a position to go to war even with the English.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 2.

*Consul Campbell to Messrs. McKay and Snape.*

Gentlemen,

“*Bloodhound*,” *Benin River*, February 17, 1858.

THIS being the second visit of Her Majesty’s steam-vessel “*Bloodhound*” to this river within the last few months to afford protection and assistance to the British trading establishments, I wish, before leaving the river, to be favoured with your opinion as to security of the property in your charge, and what measures in your opinion are necessary, and can be carried out, to increase that security: the piratical seizure of Messrs. Horsfall’s schooner boat, and the reluctance of Jerry and the other Chiefs to interfere for its restoration, together with Jerry’s refusal hitherto to pay his customary visit to me on board Her Majesty’s vessel, manifesting, in my opinion, propensities hostile to the security of the property on shore.

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

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Inclosure 2 in No. 2.

*Messrs. McKay and Snape to Consul Campbell.*

Sir,

*Benin River*, February 18, 1858.

IN reply to your letter of the 17th instant, respecting what measures in our opinion can be adopted to add to the protection and security of the property in our charge at Messrs. Horsfall and Messrs. Harrison’s establishments in this place, during the present unsettled and hostile intentions on the part of Jerry and several of his Chiefs, we beg to inform you that the only sure method we can suggest is, that you will apply for one of Her Majesty’s cruisers, for the purpose of remaining in the river a short time, or that one of Her Majesty’s cruisers visit us, say once a month, for five or six months. This, in our opinion, will put a stop to the natives plundering or molesting us in any way.

If Abrimoney of Batara will accept of the Governorship, we request you will appoint him in the place of Jerry, as we have confidence Abrimoney and his Chiefs will afford us some protection from Jerry and his tribe, who are evidently hostile. In consideration of this we will pay Abrimoney any comey that you consider fair and reasonable.

From remarks these natives have made to us time after time, we are of opinion that Jerry, Jibuffa, and sundry other old Chiefs, wish us to leave the place, thinking by so doing that slavers will visit this river again: this is the only reason we can account for their repeated palavers and for troubling and annoying us so.

We have, &c.  
(Signed) JAMES S. SNAPE.  
GORDON G. MCKAY.

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Inclosure 3 in No. 2.

*Agreement.*

KNOW all men that I, Benjamin Campbell, Her Britannic Majesty’s Consul for the Bight of Benin, deeming it necessary for the better security and protection of British property, and for the personal safety of the subjects of Her Majesty residing in the Benin river, have, with the advice and consent of Gordon McKay, Esquire, agent for Messrs. Thomas Harrison and Co., and of James Snape, Esquire, agent for Messrs. Charles Horsfall and Sons, all of Liverpool, this day appointed Abrimoney, Chief of Battaré, Governor of that part of the Benin river reaching from Warree Creek to the river’s mouth, and Protector of the British Agents, and all other British subjects residing in or visiting the Benin river, and of the property stored at their factories.

And it is hereby agreed and consented to by the said Gordon McKay and James Snape, Esquires, on their own behalf, and on the behalf of their successors, that there



shall be paid to the said Abrimoney, Chief of Battaré, a comey of 200 pawns for every mast of any vessel loading in the Benin river, or at the anchorage outside the bar, in consideration of such protection to British property and British subjects accorded as aforesaid, which said comey is to be paid before opening trade or discharging cargo.

And the said Abrimoney, Chief of Battaré, on his part voluntarily, on the above-stated comey being duly paid to him, undertakes to protect, with all his power and influence, the British property deposited in this river on shore or afloat, and all the British agents and other subjects of Her Britannic Majesty.

And Benjamin Campbell, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, on his part stipulates that, on its being made known to him, or to his successor, or to the Senior Naval Officer of Her Majesty's naval forces in the Bight of Benin, that the presence of a ship of war in the Benin is necessary to support the said Chief Abrimoney in protecting British property and British subjects against a threatened hostile attack, that a suitable vessel of war shall be sent into the Benin river to support the Chief Abrimoney in protecting British property and British subjects.

The above appointment accepted by Abrimoney, as witness

ABRIMONEY his ✕ mark.

Given under my hand, and the seal of my Consulate, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Bloodhound," the 18th day of February, 1858, in the presence of the Commander and officers of that ship.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Being present—

(Signed)

C. ROBSON, *Lieutenant and Commander.*

RICHARD ONSLOW, *Mate.*

JOHN T. C. WEBB, *Second Master.*

E. TENISON RYAN, *Assistant Surgeon.*

J. C. MEAGHER, *Assistant Paymaster in charge.*

GORDON G. MCKAY, *Agent to Messrs. Harrison and Co.*

JAMES S. SNAPE, *Agent to Messrs. Horsfall and Co.*

No. 3.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 22.)*

My Lord,

Lagos, March 3, 1858.

AFTER the Abbeokutan army had returned from the siege of the town of Aibo, bringing with them their starving captives, the Alake, or supreme Chief of the town, opposed the undertaking of any more such expeditions. The inhabitants of the neighbouring towns and villages which had supported the Aibos, deeming themselves secure for a time, after the return home of the Abbeokutans, ceased to exercise a proper vigilance, and, in consequence, the unfortunate inhabitants of one of those towns, numbering, it is said, between 600 and 700, fell an easy prey to a detachment of about 1,000 of the Abbeokutans, who left their town secretly, and by a forced march fell upon the unfortunate people just before break of day.

In consequence of this success an expedition on a larger scale, under the lead of the Chief Ogubonna, who had for some time previously to the revival of Slave Trade at Whydah shown himself open to good influences, and had become the most extensive cotton cultivator, was planned against the remaining towns and villages of the Aibos; and, notwithstanding the urgent remonstrances of the missionaries, would have proceeded on its evil purpose, but for information received at Abbeokuta that the King of Dahomey, at the head of a large force, had left his town, as supposed, to attack Abbeokuta, in revenge for their destruction of the town of Aibo, whose inhabitants were allies of Dahomey.

The last authentic account that has reached Lagos of the King's proceedings is, that he fell suddenly on a town named Ahpo, not far from Kétu, and killed and carried off between 1,400 and 1,500 of its inhabitants, and that the King and people of Kétu, being alarmed at the proximity of the King of Dahomey's forces, had sent to Abbeokuta for aid.

It is some years since the King of Dahomey has made so successful a foray, or slave hunt, and it is greatly to be feared that the number of unfortunate victims annually sacrificed to the barbarous superstitions of the King of Dahomey and his Chiefs, which

of late years had diminished to some thirty or forty, will this year be increased to hundreds.

This is one of the many evils arising from a revival of the Slave Trade at Whydah, and shows how deeply rooted is the influence of the Slave Trade in all those countries near to the sea-coast, and how easily the impressions and influences created by legitimate commerce, and other means brought to bear on the native mind, are obliterated by the prospect of a resumption of Slave Trade.

The first attempt by a European merchant to form a trading establishment at Abbeokuta has failed, entailing a heavy loss. The Chiefs professed the greatest readiness and pleasure to see a white merchant established in their town, and promised him their protection, and they received the handsome presents he made them; but in a few months they allowed a paltry section of the population, who had been influenced by bribes from some mischievous Sierra Leone people, inimical to this merchant, to detain and plunder the merchant's property.

How different has been the conduct of the Chiefs and people, Mahometan and Pagan, of the Niger countries, towards the members of the Niger Expedition, whether traders or Government employés.

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

## No. 4.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 22.)*

My Lord,

Lagos, March 6, 1858.

I TAKE the liberty of transmitting to your Lordship an extract from a letter received by me from Mr. Davis, the medical officer attached to the Niger Expedition, under Dr. Baikie, as it so strongly confirms the account given by Dr. Barth of the extensive commerce carried on in the interior of Africa, and particularly from the great mart Kano.

The large quantity of silk alluded to by Mr. Davis comes, I apprehend, from the Barbary towns on the Mediterranean coast, or from any countries producing silk in Egyptian territory; it is used at Illorin to mix with cotton in the superior cloths manufactured at that town, which have long been celebrated throughout Yoruba and neighbouring countries for their softness and the gloss imparted by the silk: they are very expensive, and only Chiefs and others possessing wealth can afford to purchase them.

The return caravans from Illorin to Kano explain what has for some time been a matter of inquiry by me as to what becomes of the large quantities of British manufactured cotton goods which are annually landed in the Bight of Benin and sold against palm oil; for I have remarked they are but scantily used by the populations of the seaboard countries, who prefer clothing themselves in the strong and durable cotton fabrics of the country, although so much dearer. It is evident that British-manufactured goods find their way from one market town to another till they reach a kind of emporium at Illorin, from whence they are carried across the Niger into the heart of Africa.

Rabba, or its immediate neighbourhood, would, therefore, be a very desirable site for commercial establishments connected with others at the confluence, and the safety of communication and travelling overland from Rabba to Lagos, which has now been established, would be found a great advantage.

Lieutenant Glover has arrived at this place from the encampment in seventeen days; he was detained two days at Illorin to pay a formal visit to the King of that town, and three days at Abbeokuta with slight fever. Lieutenant Glover's intention is to proceed to Sierra Leone to purchase supplies for prosecuting a journey from the Niger to Egypt, and he entertains hopes of being able to procure any papers that may have been in the possession of Dr. Vogel when he was most unfortunately put to death.

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

## Inclosure in No. 4.

*Mr. Davis to Consul Campbell.*

(Extract.)

*Niger Expedition, Camp near Jeba, January 31, 1858.*

MR. CROWTHER and Mr. Barter (the botanist) were down last week at Rabba; there were two large caravans, one going to, the other coming from, Illorin: the first, from Kano, was a very large one. Barter counted 1,000 horses, mules, and donkeys, and then gave up counting, as they extended backwards along the Kano-road as far as he could see; he thinks there could not have been less than 5,000 persons in it, and the beasts of burthen were even more numerous. They were taking horses (good ones could have been purchased at 20 to 30 head of cowries), bullocks, asses, slaves, and immense quantities of raw silk (white and red) to Illorin; the party returning from there had European goods. What becomes of all this silk taken to Illorin? They saw an Arab in Turkish dress, a fine looking man, who had seen the English troops, at Stamboul, going to fight the Russians, and who had visited Gibraltar and other places on the Mediterranean. Unfortunately they could not talk to him, as they had no Arab interpreter, and he did not understand any of the dialects with which Mr. Crowther is familiar.

Rabba is to be rebuilt very soon. If a permanent peace be established, the trade of that place will, in the course of a few years, surpass all your expectations. The yams are the finest we have ever seen, some weighing 45 lbs., as white as flour, and as sweet almost as a potato; dawa, gero, mawa, and Indian corn are grown abundantly, and furnish with yams, fish, and palm oil, the chief food of the people. I shall (D.V.) take you down specimens of the three first-named grains. Plantains, bananas, and popors, are the only kinds of fruit we get, and these are scarce.

## No. 5.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 22.)*

My Lord,

*Lagos, March 8, 1858.*

THE attempt to purchase slaves at Whydah as free emigrants has not yet been renewed by M. Régis, and, so long as the current value of slaves among the natives of this part of Africa continues so high as at present, it is not likely to be.

I have reason to believe that no slaves have been bought by the agents of M. Régis at this place and at Palma.

There are two vessels in the neighbourhood of Whydah waiting an opportunity to embark slaves; a schooner, under the American colours, called the "*Hanover*," and a Spanish brig. The squadron having been increased, these vessels will find it very difficult to escape the vigilance of the naval commanders. Eight Kroomen, engaged to work on board the "*Hanover*," finding that it is the intention of the master of that vessel to embark slaves, deserted from her, and reached this Consulate yesterday morning.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

## No. 6.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 8.)*

My Lord,

*Lagos, April 20, 1858.*

I EMBARKED on board Her Majesty's steam vessel "*Brune*" (stationed here for service in the Lagoons) on the 30th of March, on an official visit to Badagry and Porto Novo. In consequence of the "*Brune*" taking the ground, and it being necessary to sound the Lagoon for some distance, I disembarked on the following day, the 31st of March. The soundings having been completed, I re-embarked on April the 9th, and proceeded on to Badagry and Porto Novo, disembarking on the 19th of the same month.

At Porto Novo, the King's Town, called by the natives "*Ajashy*," a place of considerable commercial importance for an African town, and situated some nine miles from the sea-shore, the natives had never before seen a steam-vessel: the arrival of the "*Brune*,"

therefore, created considerable excitement, but no alarm, as the canoes by hundreds, with thousands of the townspeople in them, surrounded the vessel during the four days she lay at anchor, and many of the Chiefs and leading inhabitants were permitted to come on board and inspect the ship. The engine-room, with its ponderous machinery, created no little wonder in the minds of a people who had never before seen anything larger than a man-of-war's boat.

I had interviews with the King every day, and, accompanied by Lieutenant Lodder, Commander of the "Brune," brought to a satisfactory termination several disputed matters between the people of Lagos and those of Porto Novo. The King was kind and generous to the officers and crew of the "Brune," presenting them with six bullocks, four pigs, and four bags of cowries (24 dollars value) to purchase yams.

The inhabitants of the King's territory being large cultivators of the necessaries of life, and their farming being of the neatest I have seen in Africa, completely clearing the ground from stumps and weeds, I pointed out to the King the great advantage of encouraging his people to cultivate cotton, which would be a source of profit to them. The King assured me he would impress the proposition on his subjects, and that I might rest assured of seeing cotton offered for sale at Porto Novo ere long.

The population of the town of Porto Novo, or Ajashy, is estimated at 30,000; that of Badagry at some 600, the civil war which broke out in the town some seven years since having swept off many families, and driven away some thousands who made it a temporary abode on account of its commerce. Notwithstanding its present sparse population, no less than eight Chiefs, or Caboceers, no one superior to the other, exercise authority; a state of things leading to endless disputes, and to many of the population being thieves and kidnappers, and to the traders, to suit their own purposes, meddling themselves with the disputes and differences of the Chiefs one with the other.

Badagry possesses no commerce within itself, and but a small territory is attached to the town. The natives do not cultivate anything, not even cassada. The town is entirely dependent on Porto Novo for its trade, and the inhabitants for the necessaries of life; in fact, it can only be regarded as the shipping port of Porto Novo, the King of that town enjoying a revenue from the payment of one head of cowries on every purchaser of palm-oil shipped from Badagry beach.

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

## No. 7.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 8.)*

(Extract.)

*Lagos, April 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr. John Chillingworth, member of a respectable mercantile firm in Liverpool, who lately arrived at this place in the steam mail-packet "Ethiope."

The fearful events which took place on board the "Regina Cœli" in the successful struggle made by the slaves to recover their freedom, exposes the true nature of the so-called "French Free Emigration Scheme." I beg to call your Lordship's particular attention to the statement made to Mr. Chillingworth by the free man Peter, probably a Krooman, that himself and others, on going on board the "Regina Cœli" to offer themselves as free labourers, were at once put into irons and placed in the hold of the vessel. The revival of the Slave Trade by France, under the specious designation of Free Emigration, is of itself exercising a most pernicious influence in the countries near to the sea-coast, and if the iniquitous system of kidnapping (rarely pursued by the Spanish and Brazilian slave-traders) is also sanctioned by the Imperial Government of France, it will lead to a general distrust on the part of the natives on the coast to venture on board any vessel, either to trade or to offer themselves as labourers.

As Mr. Newnham, Her Majesty's Consul at Monrovia, will doubtless furnish your Lordship with every particular of this event, I do not think it necessary to communicate what I have heard from other passengers of the "Ethiope."

Inclosure in No. 7.

*Mr. Chillingworth to Consul Campbell.*

Dear Sir,

*Lagos, April 23, 1858.*

KNOWING the interest you take in all matters that concern the suppression of the Slave Trade on the West Coast of Africa, I beg to lay before you the particulars of a transaction which came under my own observation during my recent journey from England to here on board the "Ethiope," Captain Croft.

The "Ethiope" arrived at the Liberian capital, Monrovia, on the afternoon of the 14th instant. The ship's boat going ashore with the captain, myself and three other of the passengers availed ourselves of the opportunity of paying our respects to ex-President Roberts. While at his house he informed us that a large French vessel called the "Regina Coeli" had been for some weeks past collecting emigrants along the coast, but that five or six days prior to our arrival the emigrants had revolted during the absence of the captain, purser, and two or three of the crew, who fortunately were on shore at the time; the seamen on board, eleven in number, were all massacred; but the doctor, through some friendly feeling on the part of the leaders of the mutiny, was spared, and landed somewhere near Cape Mount. After the massacre the emigrants took possession of the vessel, and as Mr. Roberts stated, were supposed at the time of our arrival to be cruising somewhere off Cape Mount. It was urged upon Captain Croft to go in search of the vessel, and, after some deliberation, it was decided that, on a formal requisition being made to Captain Croft by the French Consul, he would take the "Ethiope" as far as Cape Mount.

The "Regina Coeli" being understood to be well armed, all possible preparations were made on board the "Ethiope" to use force, if such were required, and being aware of the great moral influence exercised by ex-President Roberts over the native population, he was requested to accompany the "Ethiope."

We started from Monrovia at about 11 p.m. the same day that we arrived, and made Cape Mount early next morning, without having met with the vessel we went in search of. On sending a boat on shore, it was ascertained that the "Regina Coeli" had been seen the previous evening, and that she must consequently be still in the neighbourhood. We steamed some time longer, and about 9 o'clock sighted a vessel which, from the way she was drifting, was assumed to be the one we sought. As we neared her we saw her decks crowded with people, who, as soon as they saw the British flag, hung out a white shirt, and, the "Ethiope" coming within hailing distance, they made all possible demonstration, by clapping of hands and crossing their arms, of their joy at seeing a British ship, and their willingness to give themselves up. Mr. Roberts having gone on board, the natives saluted him with every demonstration of joy, and when they learned that they would be taken to Monrovia, they danced their native dance and shouted out with pleasure the name of the Liberian capital. From what Mr. Roberts saw on board the "Regina Coeli," and also the account given him by the people, he expressed himself to all the passengers on board the "Ethiope," that no doubt remained on his mind but that all the so-called emigrants were neither more nor less than slaves, who had been bought, shipped, manacled, and were intended for sale in a distant market; in all respects the same as the slavery system which the British public supposes to be all but dead, but which is being revived again under the specious name of "emigration."

A few English seamen were put on board the "Regina Coeli," and she was towed by the "Ethiope" to Monrovia. A statement of the matter was made to the Liberian Government; but as the "Ethiope" had to proceed on her voyage, I am, at the moment ignorant of what steps the Government may have taken in respect to the people on board the "Regina Coeli." Up to the time of the "Ethiope's" departure (the evening of the 16th) they remained on board, with one English seaman placed there by the captain of the "Ethiope," not for the purpose of controlling or interfering with the natives, but merely as his representative until the question of his claim to salvage of the ship was adjudicated upon.

On the morning of the 16th I went on board the "Regina Coeli" in order to judge for myself the connection between emigration and slavery. I found some of the people could speak English, and one of them, who gave me his name as Peter, showed me the irons in which they had been manacled, and many still retained the marks of them on their ancles and wrists. There were, when I went on board, about 170 people; but somewhere about 100 had left the ship before the "Ethiope" fell in with her, and the man Peter told me that the greater portion of the slaves had been brought from the

interior, but that others had gone on board as Kroo labourers, he himself among the latter, when they were at once put in irons and placed in the hold of the vessel. When speaking of the massacre of the ill-fated seamen, they attempted no concealment, but gloried in the deed, and seemed conscious that the blood shed was for liberty: they pointed out how the men took refuge in the vessel's tops, which were still covered with blood, and that as each fell, he was hove overboard. They stated that the first outbreak arose from the cook stabbing one of the people who had gone to the galley to get something to eat. But I am satisfied that the rising had been preconcerted. On my asking if they would allow the French skipper to go on board, they replied, that an English boy, if sent there, they would be answerable with their heads for his safety, but that they would shoot the French captain.

The "Regina Cœli" is a vessel about 400 to 500 tons register, apparently new, with a full-length figure-head of the Virgin and the infant Jesus in her arms. The figure stands on a sphere painted a light blue. Shortly after the vessel was taken in tow the captain and three of his crew were picked up. The captain came on with us to Monrovia: he told me he had been watching the vessel for some days in hopes of some opportunity of regaining her, but that every time he came within gun-shot, he was fired upon. His account of the immediate origin of the mutiny was the same as that given by the emigrants. He further informed me that he paid ten dollars for each emigrant, half in cash and half in merchandise, to the party who shipped them; that his destination was the island formerly known as the Isle of Bourbon, and that he would get for each about seventy dollars. It is to be hoped that the whole affair will be thoroughly sifted by the Liberian Government, as I am satisfied the investigation will show the true nature of African emigration. The sketch I give you, is strictly what I saw and heard for myself; I have, therefore, abstained from what may be called the general rumours current respecting this special case, and emigration generally, as to the villanous mode in which the emigrants, as they are now called, are obtained: as I believe that one case, fully and clearly proved of emigration and slavery being the same thing, will be the means of the new system meeting the fate of the old.

Yours, &c.

(Signed) JOHN CHILLINGWORTH.

No. 8.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 8.)*

(Extract.)

Lagos, May 6, 1858.

THE "Stella," a screw steamer belonging to M. Régis, that formerly made an unsuccessful attempt to purchase slaves at Whydah in pursuance of the Régis contract, is now at anchor off Whydah: as is also the "Dahomey," another screw-steamer belonging to M. Régis; but this vessel, on her last voyage to this coast, loaded a cargo of palm oil,

No. 9.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 8.)*

My Lord,

Lagos, May 6, 1858.

I HAVE the satisfaction to be able to report to your Lordship that Commander Aplin, of Her Majesty's ship "Hecla," informs me there are now no suspicious vessels to be met with in the Bight of Benin.

The last vessel of this description, the "Marshall," that had long protected herself under the flag of the United States, was met with by Commodore Wise in Her Majesty's ship "Vesuvius," and captured by him on account of having no national papers on board, and sent to Sierra Leone for adjudication.

The "Marshall" turns out to be, as all these slave-vessels covered by the American flag undoubtedly are, Spanish property.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

No. 10.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

Lagos, March 27, 1858.

ABOUT three years since, various slaves belonging to Domingo Martins and the slave-traders living at Whydah and the windward ports, escaped from their masters and ran to this place claiming my protection; in every instance I accorded them protection, and got them located in the town. From the great demand for labour they soon found employment at good wages. Since the late revival of Slave Trade at Whydah a considerable number of slaves have deserted from their masters at that and at other towns, a large portion of whom were domestic slaves, who had lived several years with their masters, and now speak the Portuguese language; they all state as the cause of their desertion, the dread of being sold to the Spanish slave-dealers and carried away from the country.

I fear that a not inconsiderable portion of those who have lately deserted have been fallen in with by canoemen belonging to King Docemo, or to his Chiefs, who now either hold them as slaves or have sold them into fresh slavery. On every occasion when it has come to my knowledge that such people have been received and kept by the King or his Chiefs, I have demanded and obtained their release, on the ground that these people did not desert from their state of slavery at Whydah to become again slaves at Lagos, but in the full confidence of obtaining British protection.

Some of these people have settled here; but most of them being from interior countries, Houssa and Nuffee in particular, and professing the Mahometan faith, have, after a time, under protection of my passport, returned to their homes; their route thither lying through the large Mahometan town of Illorin, in which they met with many of their countrymen, to whom they related the protection that had been accorded them by the English Consul at Lagos. The novel circumstance of protection and assistance being afforded at Lagos to people in their unfortunate condition, from pure sympathy and benevolence, appears to have excited surprise and interest at Illorin, and a Sheriffe, a native of Bornu, was sent by the King and Chiefs of that town to Lagos with directions to inquire into the circumstances as related by the Houssa and Nuffee men, who had escaped from slavery, and to thank me for the assistance I had rendered to their co-religionists.

Although the Mahometans in Africa are generally slave-dealers, they view with great pleasure the release from slavery of the followers of the Prophet, who, in their slave-hunts against the unfortunate Pagan natives, not unfrequently meet with a reverse, and are themselves captured, sent to the seaboard, and sold as slaves.

As there is considerable intercourse between Illorin, Rabba, Kano, and other large interior towns inhabited mostly by Mahometans, who are, if not the reigning Chiefs, at least very influential, the knowledge to them that the English Christian people are actuated in their endeavours to suppress the Slave Trade by the purest benevolence and impartiality will, it is to be hoped, induce them to receive with confidence and goodwill those subjects of Her Majesty who are now visiting, or who may hereafter visit, their countries.

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

No. 11.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

Lagos, March 28, 1858.

ALTHOUGH my presence here for the introduction and support of legitimate commerce is regarded with more than disfavour by the Chiefs of Lagos and of surrounding countries, by the great mass of the populations it is considered the greatest blessing that has befallen them and the country in general. The native population of Lagos in particular, nine-tenths of whom are of the class still called slaves, have reason to be, and are, most thankful for British countenance and assistance. Formely this class of people had always the dread of being shipped from the country uppermost in their minds, and the threat of being handed over to the slave-dealer was generally held *in terrorem* over them to enforce fidelity and obedience to their masters. Now all this is changed: the Caboceers and chief traders may and do dabble a little in Slave Trade, that is, they sell

to-day at a moderate profit the slaves bought at the last market-day at Icorrodoo or elsewhere; but, to sell any of their domestic slaves, or, as they are more generally called, their people, they will not venture to do. All these people are now working or trading for themselves, and the increasing commerce, together with the numerous buildings, both native and European, now in progress, give to this class of people a fine opening and ample reward for their industry, particularly as all native building materials have within the last few years, from the great demand for them, increased in value 200 to 300 per cent.

The acquisition of property, earned by their own labour and industry, has naturally led to the desire, on the part of many domestic slaves, to purchase their own freedom from their masters; this desire is strongly evinced by women who are in the unfortunate position of slaves, more strongly so if they are mothers and have children living. The male domestic slave finds little trouble in arranging with his master the price of his redemption, the master knowing well that, if he is too hard in his terms, his slave will take French leave, and walk to his home in the interior; this step is, however, seldom taken if it can be avoided, there being a feeling either of honour, pride, or personal security in a man paying in the presence of witnesses the price of his redemption. It is the unfortunate female slave who meets with difficulty in obtaining the redemption of herself and her children, particularly if they happen to be daughters. It is the women that trade at the oil markets, and many of them by care of frugality soon amass sufficient cowries to pay a heavy sum for the redemption of themselves and their children; but their masters often show great unwillingness to part with them, and it is in many of these cases that my interposition is sought; and although, by perseverance, I have in every case succeeded in obtaining the consent of their masters to the mothers' manumission of herself and children, at an exorbitant rate compared with the price formerly paid, it has been given with reluctance and bad grace, and the Caboceers and Chiefs have set their faces against increasing the number of free inhabitants. The women and children who are thus manumitted, as a rule, remain in Lagos to be near to British protection; the men frequently return to their homes in the interior, when they find it safe for them to do so.

I have deemed it my duty to bring the above circumstances to your Lordship's notice, that Her Majesty's Government may know how beneficial have been the results of their active policy in supporting the late friendly Chief Akitoye against his barbarous relative and usurper Kosoko (who appears dead to every good influence and determined to oppose British views and policy), and by the presence of a British agent, protecting the increasing legitimate commerce and the weak and oppressed classes of the large population of Lagos.

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

No. 12.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 9.)*

(Extract.)

*Lagos, April 7, 1858.*

I FEAR we are now but beginning to feel the ill effects of the late revival of Slave Trade at Whydah and the neighbouring ports.

The King of Dahomey's emissaries are now visiting the Chiefs of the large towns of Yoruba, seeking to obtain assistance to enable him to attack Abbeokuta next year. To the King of Ago Oyo (whose immediate ancestor was, before the civil wars broke out in the country, King of Yoruba, and received a heavy annual tribute from the former Kings of Dahomey), Gezo is now offering to renew the payment of the former annual tribute, and to assist the Atiba, King of Ago Oyo, in subduing his revolted vassals, and in regaining his former power and authority over the whole of the Yoruba tribes.

I shall take advantage of the return of Lieutenant Glover to the Niger Expedition encampment (who will have to pass through the town of Ago Oyo) to impress the Atiba, or King, with whom I have lately entered on friendly relations, with the impolicy of allowing the King of Dahomey to obtain either power or influence in the Yoruba country.

None of the large Yoruba towns have felt the evil influence of the late revival of Slave Trade so much as Abbeokuta: it has quite unhinged the minds of the leading men



of the town, and the Christian converts, who have for some years past been exempt from persecution, are now being threatened with a renewal of it; such inveterate Slave Trade Chiefs as the King of Dahomey and Kosoko never ceasing to prejudice the minds of the natives generally against the presence of Englishmen, and of Missionaries in particular, and the religion they are introducing, which they believe will in time, with legitimate commerce, give a death-blow to the Slave Trade.

## No. 13.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Campbell.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 4, 1858.*

I HAVE received copies of your despatches of the 27th and 28th of March, and 7th of April, of which the originals were lost in the African mail steam-packet "Candace," relating to matters connected with the Slave Trade in the Bight of Benin; and I have to acquaint you that I approve your proceedings as reported in those despatches.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 14.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 11.)*

(Extract.)

*Lagos, February 3, 1859.*

THE Slave Trade in the Bights of Benin and Biafra is still struggling to retain a footing. A large brig, the "*Juliet*," has been captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Archer*" in the River Nun. It is stated that this vessel went to Mozambique, failed in obtaining a cargo there, came round to the West Coast and entered the Nun river; it is further stated that a dispute arose on board, the supercargo was murdered, and the doubloons and dollars shared by the crew, who appear to have taken passage in the mail steamer "*American*," probably for Teneriffe.

The "*Juliet*," when captured by the "*Archer*," was fully equipped for Slave Trade.

A brigantine has been captured by Her Majesty's ship "*Sharpshooter*" off Whydah, without papers or flag, but fully equipped for Slave Trade; the name on her stern, although painted over, was made out to be the "*Dorado*;" she has been sent to Sierra Leone for adjudication.

It is confidently stated that a small schooner lately succeeded in getting away from the neighbourhood of Whydah, with 200 slaves on board.

The barracoons at Whydah are stated to be full of slaves ready for shipment, and the markets continue to be well supplied with slaves for sale.

Slave Trade influence is gaining ground with these Chiefs and Rulers of the countries bordering the Bight of Benin who, until lately, had began to look upon its return as hopeless.

## No. 15.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 9.)*

My Lord,

*Lagos, February 4, 1859.*

I HAD not been forty-eight hours returned to this place before it became evident to me that Slave Trade influence had gained ground considerably during my absence.

The first apparent effect of that influence was a fire that broke out on the 28th of last month, during a strong harmattan wind, to windward of that portion of the town occupied by the Brazilian-African emigrants and an industrious section of the native population of the place, upon which the Church Missionary premises and the buildings of this Consulate closely abut. The fire destroyed at least one-third of the town, and nothing but the active energy of the Kroomen belonging to Her Majesty's steam-vessel "*Brune*," and those belonging to the "*Rainbow*," assisted by those attached to this

Consulate, under the direction of Lieutenant Lodder and myself, prevented the fire spreading to the Church Missionary premises and this Consulate, which adjoins those premises.

Although the same risks of fire are always in existence, no similar one has taken place during four years past, and since Kosoko concluded the Treaty with Captain Miller and myself; this, like all previous incendiary fires which denoted the disturbing influences of Kosoko and the Slave Trade, occurred during a strong easterly wind and broke out to windward of the town.

This occurrence awakened my suspicions, which were afterwards quickened by the report made to me by an intelligent man whom I always send to the Iccorodoo market to preserve order there, and to watch the progress of the Slave Trade, by counting the number of slaves brought for sale, and ascertaining as well as possible who are the purchasers; they were further quickened by the statement made, first to King Docemo, and subsequently to myself, by an intelligent slave of Kosoko's, who ran away from him; and all doubt was set at rest by the message sent to me last evening by Tappa, Kosoko's leading man, as related in my letter to Captain Sanderson, commanding Her Majesty's ship "Archer," copy of which I do myself the honour to inclose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) B. CAMPBELL.

Inclosure in No. 15.

*Consul Campbell to Captain Sanderson.*

(Extract.)

*Lagos, February 4, 1859.*

SHORTLY after my return to my post it became evident to me that Slave Trade influence in this neighbourhood had greatly increased, and that the great representative of that trade, Kosoko, having increased the number of his partisans, even in the town of Abbeokuta, where English influence was considerable, was preparing to disturb the peace and commerce of Lagos. He has, by his influence and bribes, prevailed on the King of Jaboo to prohibit any palm-oil from being carried to the large markets in his territory, on the Lagoons, and, for some months past, slaves only have formed the saleable productions brought to those markets, to the great loss of the mercantile community of this place and of the port of Palma, their vessels having been detained several months, unable to obtain cargoes.

Three days since an intelligent slave of Kosoko's made his escape, came to Lagos, and informed King Docemo of the active preparations being made by Kosoko for making a hostile visit to Lagos. King Docemo sent this man to me to relate what he saw and knew of the matter. Although this man's statement corroborated the information brought to me the day previous by the intelligent messenger I always send to the market of Icorrodoo to watch the progress of the Slave Trade there, I thought it better to wait further confirmation before I brought the matter before you officially.

I last evening received full confirmation of the preparations being made by Kosoko. It, therefore, becomes my duty to submit to you the propriety of the "Brune" being efficiently manned, and that the Commander be then directed to take up such a position in the Lake Icorrodoo as will command the approach to Lagos from Eppé, and so deter Kosoko from making any hostile attack on this place.

No. 16.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 11.)*

My Lord,

*Lagos, February 4, 1859.*

ON landing at Cape Coast Castle during my passage to this place, I was informed by the Acting Governor, Major Bird, that the United States' sloop of war "Vincennes" had captured in the roadstead of Cape Coast an American barque called the "Julia Dean."

The capture was effected by the "Vincennes" entering the roadstead under English colours, when the "Julia Dean" hoisted American colours. On being boarded the master of the "Julia Dean" disputed the right of being visited by, as he thought, British officers; the disguise was thrown off by the "Vincennes" hoisting her true colours.

The "*Julia Dean*" being found thoroughly fitted for Slave Trade was taken possession of and forwarded by the Commander of the "*Vincennes*" to a port in the United States.

If the American men of war would cruise off the slave ports, exercise the needful vigilance, and visit with scrutiny all vessels bearing the flag of the United States, it would not be so often prostituted to protect Spanish Slave Trade.

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

## No 17.

*Consul Campbell to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received March 11.)

My Lord,

Lagos, February 7, 1859.

ABOUT two years since, I reported the death of Gezo, King of Dahomey. I did not make that report lightly, for it was generally believed throughout the country that the event had taken place; even the slave-traders at Whydah gave currency to the report. Some months later it was ascertained that Gezo was not dead.

I believe I may now safely report to your Lordship that Gezo is dead, and that he has been so several months. The funeral obsequies of this great slave-hunter and dealer took place about six weeks since, at Abomey, at which ceremony all the slave-dealers at Whydah and the other Dahomian ports assisted, each carrying up his quota of unfortunate human beings to be slaughtered, and such presents of merchandise, &c., as they thought would satisfy and ingratiate them with the new Sovereign of Dahomey. The notorious Domingo Martins (although it is stated on the verge of bankruptcy) carried up large quantities of merchandise, rum, gunpowder, tobacco, &c.; he took up also as gifts to the departed monarch, to be buried with him, that he may enjoy in the other state of existence, which the superstition of the Dahomian and other Pagan natives believe those who have departed this life to be transported to immediately after death, a large silver salver, upon which shone brightly 170 new dollars, and a beautiful representation of an oak tree in frosted silver, about thirty inches high, to the leaves of which were fastened small hooks, and upon which hooks were hung some hundred of the finest Havana cigars, doubtless with the supposition that the deceased monarch would, in his other state of existence, console himself with their fragrance while lamenting that his days of human slaughter and slave-hunts had passed away.

The new monarch, it is stated, publicly proclaimed his intention to follow in the steps of his father, and to continue slave-hunts and the Slave Trade. It is stated, as a proof of this determination, that he has left his town accompanied by as large a force as he can muster.

Besides the slave-traders of Whydah, &c., who, I expect, were compelled to attend and to contribute to the barbarous rites performed at Abomey, some English traders at Badagry, from curiosity 'tis to be hoped, also attended these rites; and from one of those present I am informed that 800 human beings were slaughtered, that 2,000 was the number intended to be sacrificed, but it was found impossible to obtain so many, probably from the difficulty of obtaining slaves, owing to their present high value for shipment and for domestic use.

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

AFRICA. (Consular)—*Bight of Biafra.*

No. 18.

*Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 13.)*

My Lord,

Clarence, Fernando Po, May 25, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the names of 8 slaves to whom I have granted papers of emancipation according to the form herewith inclosed, and which has been used by me previously, as well as approved by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I may inform your Lordship that the first on the list, to whom I have given my own name, was given to me by a Duke Town trader, named Egbo Tom. The circumstances under which she was brought to Old Calabar were reported to me to be to the effect, that her father and mother being taken prisoners during an incursion made into the Mbwe country, by the marauding Fibãre (or Filatahs), she was passed on from one district to another, from Mbwe to Maiong, thence to Akoneia, thence to Ikna, from that to Orop far up in the Old Calabar river, and from that to Old Calabar; being sent on from one district to another, not from any motive of humanity, but as an article of native currency. From Old Calabar she was about to be sent to Tom Shot's country near the mouth of the river, when Egbo Tom hearing me express a sympathy for her, told me he would give her as a "dash" to me.

I have left her under the care of the Presbyterian Missionaries at Old Calabar, till I have an opportunity of sending her to the Church Missionary Society's care at Sierra Leone.

The others liberated are in charge of the Presbyterian Missionaries at Old Calabar.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

## Inclosure 1 in No. 18.

NAMES of Free Persons connected with the Old Calabar Mission House, being Natives of Old Calabar, or Neighbouring Countries, redeemed from Slavery.

English Names.	Native Names.	Born in or brought from	Age.	Marks.
Fanny Hutchinson	Unknown	Mbe, in the Mbudikum Country	About 4 years	None
Eliza Hamilton	Oman	Egbo Shary	" 17 "	"
Ellen Hamilton	Adia	Egbo Shary	" 35 "	"
Jane Waddell	Afiong Uma	Creek Town	" 4 "	"
Ellen Edgerly		Old Town	" "	"
Paul Eyo Edgerly		Ditto	" 6 "	"
Virginia Edgerly		Ditto	" 6 "	"
Jessey Edgerley		Ditto	" 1 "	"

"Photo," Old Calabar River, May 13, 1858.

(Signed)

THOS. J. HUTCHINSON, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 18.

*Form of Manumission.*

TO all whom these presents come greeting: Know ye that aged about        years, whose country name is        , and who was born at        , has been this day declared before me to have been originally a slave, but to be now manumitted. This is, therefore, to declare that fact to all whom it may concern, and to forbid any into whose hands        may come, from again making        a slave, under the pain of incurring the displeasure of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, and of suffering such penalty as the Government may attach to such a step.

Given under my hand and seal, on board Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Pluto," in the Old Calabar river, this        day of        18        .  
(L.S.) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

No. 19.

*Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 13.)*

My Lord,

*Clarence, Fernando Po, May 26, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to lay before Her Majesty's Government the particulars of an affair that was brought before my notice on my late official visit to the Cameroons river.

A message was conveyed to me through the Rev. Mr. Saker, a Baptist Missionary in that district, to the effect that the Kings and Chiefs of Acqua Town desired my mediation in a palaver they were about to have with a large body of their slaves, who had shaken off all allegiance to them, and had in fact asserted an independent Government of their own.

Having always made it my practice stedfastly to abstain from any meddling with the local prejudices and superstitions of the people, I, therefore, requested the Rev. Mr. Saker to explain to me the nature of the points in question. The chief trade in Cameroons being carried on after the trust fashion, and, therefore, a large amount of British property ever in the hands of native traders there, I thought I would not be stepping out of the province of my duty in assisting to throw oil upon the troubled waters, especially in case a few suggestions might obviate the possibility of an indiscriminate slaughter ensuing from an outbreak, which would likewise involve the destruction of a large amount of British property; perhaps, too, the lives of British subjects at the Mission station. When Mr. Saker had informed me of the likelihood of a sanguinary outbreak ensuing if the disturbed affairs were not peaceably settled, I conceded my willingness to be present, after receiving from him a narration that the differences arose from the acts of two conflicting orders of "Egbo," the meaning of which I shall endeavour to convey to your Lordship.

It appears that in Cameroons there are two orders of "Egbo," entitled "Mikuka" and "Bangolo," to which freemen and slave boys are alike admitted; not, however, to the enjoyment of like privileges: for the masters or freemen are the governing heads and ever compel the others to do what they please. The slaves have hitherto had orders of their own, to which the titles "Mbwe," "Kosso," and "Kalla Pemba" were given. Of the minutiae of these nothing is known by the uninitiated, as their formulæ are kept as secret as those of Freemasons in England. That they are all used as engines of oppression is patent in their every deed. Soon after the death of the late King Acqua, his son, the present King of the same name, energetically carried out a despotic principle in the "Mikuka" graduation; rendering it incumbent on candidates who were going through the routine of initiation, that other people's yards and houses were to be plundered of any fowls or goats to be found. This being effected in the night, as the alumni were kept all day locked up to maintain a fable of their invisibility, it drove the slaves to a reprisal; particularly as that portion of them getting into a good position as traders were the people most marked out for these episodes of freebooterism. The slaves, therefore, established a new order entitled "Manganga," whose principles they brought with them from an interior country called Aboh; and one of the chief provisions of this was that it was to be opposed to the Kings and Chiefs in everything, acknowledge no allegiance to them, and by every possible means to subjugate them. One illustration of the extent to which this idea was carried may suffice to show your Lordship how it bears on the interests of British supercargoes. If a slave bought oil at an interior

market for his master, one "big ting" (a form of currency, value from 15s. to 1l.) was demanded, no matter how trifling the amount of oil purchased. If not paid, the slave in the case being a man belonging to the Mangunga, had the power of placing a supposed witchcraft stick called "Dikubu" outside of the door of the master; and from that time the fate of the latter was doomed. It sentenced him to drink sangaree (or test-poison water), no one was allowed to communicate with him, and on the first time of leaving the house, if he escaped the sangaree, his dwelling was razed to the ground or burnt.

On the Kings, Chiefs, and slaves being assembled, I let them discuss their palaver in their country fashion; but after several hours' noisy gabbling, I suggested to King Acqua that as the slaves had justified their establishment of "Manganga" as a protection for their body against the thievery of "Mikuka," it would be better for both sides to enter into a mutual agreement to abolish them. I assured the parties of my opinion, that "this being effected, none of these disturbances were likely to arise. Slave and master would know their respective positions, and their country would come up better by peace than by war."

The slaves being more numerous than the freemen, and many likewise rising themselves into firm positions by becoming traders, seem to be nurturing a spirit to throw off the yoke of serfdom under which they have so long suffered, and which has been only sustained by the grossest brutalities and silliest superstitions. This is especially the case in Bonny, Old Calabar, and Cameroons.

I trust your Lordship will not consider I exceeded my duty in having assisted a reconciliation, however temporary it may be, in this matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

Inclosure in No. 19.

*Agreement with King Acqua.*

*Acqua Town, Cameroons, May 19, 1858.*

WE, King Acqua, Prince Dido, John Anguah, Jim Quan, and Eyo, King and Chiefs of Acqua Town, make an Agreement this day to abolish our "Makoko" country custom, on condition that the slaves headed by Yellow Acqua, senior, and Yellow Acqua, junior, shall abolish the "Manganga" country custom.

And we, the before-mentioned persons, hereby mutually sign our names as guarantees to the sacred keeping of this Agreement.

KING ACQUA, his ✕ mark.  
 PRINCE DIDO, his mark.  
 JOHN ANGUAH, his ✕ mark.  
 JIM QUAN, his ✕ mark.  
 EYO, his ✕ mark.  
 YELLOW ACQUA, his ✕ mark.  
 YELLOW ACQUA, Junior, his ✕ mark.

The foregoing Agreement has this day been signed in the presence of us,

Witnesses:

THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.  
 ALFRED SAKER, Missionary.  
 T. H. JOHNSON.  
 F. PINNOCK.  
 BONNY ACQUA, his ✕ mark.  
 LONG TOM ACQUA, his ✕ mark.

No. 20.

*Consul Hutchinson to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

*Clarence, Fernando Po, March 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 16th of February last, intimating the receipt of my despatch of the 29th December

last, inclosing a letter addressed to me by the Kings and Chiefs of the Kroo Coast, representing the manner in which they have been deceived by M. Chevalier and induced to supply him with labourers on the several occasions on which he has visited their coasts during the last few years.

Rear-Admiral the Honourable Sir F. W. Grey, K.C.B., who visited this port last week, on board Her Majesty's steam-ship "Vesuvius," having informed me that the whole Kroo coast to the east of Cape Palmas has been lately annexed to the Liberian Republic, I shall transmit the information directed by your Lordship in the before-mentioned despatch through Consul Newnham of Monrovia, with a request to him to forward it to its destination.

I informed the Admiral that it was communicated to me by Lieutenant Sabourin of the French man-of-war "Tourmente," that four French ships were soon about to proceed to Whydah to carry out the contract of Messrs. Régis, and that each ship was to be furnished with a commissioned officer of the French Navy.

Since the Admiral's departure I have received more information on the same subject; and I beg leave to solicit your Lordship's attention to the statements laid before me as described to the Admiral, a copy whereof I have the honour to inclose.

I trust that it is unnecessary for me to explain to your Lordship that, so long as such palpable slave-trading as this goes on under the guise of "voluntary emigration," and that no means can be resorted to for its prevention out here, the efforts of the African squadron to suppress the Slave Trade must prove perfectly inefficacious.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOS. J. HUTCHINSON.

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Inclosure in No. 20.

*Consul Hutchinson to Rear-Admiral Sir F. Grey.*

(Extract.)

*Clarence, Fernando Po, March 29, 1858.*

I DEEM it my duty to make you acquainted with some items of intelligence concerning the French "voluntary emigration" system on the Coast of Africa, that have come to my knowledge since your departure from this port.

My informant has assured me that he is willing to substantiate these statements on his sworn testimony. They refer to proceedings at the French occupation of Gaboon and the neutral territory of Loango.

As regards Gaboon, this gentleman has stated, he was told by M. Michon, agent for the French merchant, M. Vidal, of Havre, that a vessel named the "Joseph," was on her way to that quarter, from which she was to proceed to Cayenne with 500 "voluntary emigrants," if they were procurable. The mode of obtaining these people was confessed by M. Michon to be by purchasing their "voluntariness" from their owners. To effect this a cargo of goods was expected in the "Joseph," and with it a commissioned officer of the French Navy.

My informant has further stated that on his visit to Loango, a short time previous to this, he saw on shore at the factory of Messrs. Régis, of Marseilles, 150 men ready for shipment to Cayenne. You may imagine how much of the "voluntary" principle was about these people when the head man, called Mafuka Impoda, informed this gentleman that the following was the price given to him for each of these emigrants:—

	Invoice price.			Net amount in the country.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1 Gun .. .. .	0	10	0	1	0	0
1 Keg of powder .. .. .	0	12	0	1	4	0
8 Longs (pieces of Chilloe or Romal) .. .. .	1	4	0	2	8	0
8 Shorts (half of ditto) .. .. .	0	17	0	1	14	0
2 Gallons of rum .. .. .	0	5	0	0	10	0
1 Matchet, 1 iron bar, and a few small things, amounting say to .. .. .	0	3	6	0	7	0
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	3	11	6	7	3	0

The head man gets a dash of about six shillings worth of goods for each negro he procures, and this is one *modus operandi* in the tactics of "voluntary emigration."

I do not presume to make any suggestions in connection with this information, but I think it is expedient you should be acquainted with some of the minutiae of the system. It is my intention to acquaint Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that even up the rivers within my jurisdiction the Kings and Chiefs have become cognizant of the proceedings of the French Government in this matter, and are in daily expectation that the British Government will follow the example of imitating the French.

Experience of the principles of these African Chiefs and Kings leads me to believe that there is scarcely one of them that would not, if opportunity occurred, break all the Treaties made with our Government for the suppression of Slave Trade.

It is only by the growth of commercial habits calculated to banish out of their minds any remembrance of slave exportation that this evil can be finally eradicated; and it is needless for me to inform you, that so long as such a system of "voluntary emigration" as that described in Loango exists, all efforts to stop the nefarious traffic must be utterly unavailing.

## No. 21.

*Acting Consul Lynslager to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 12.)*

My Lord,

*Clarence, Fernando Po, August 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a letter I have received by this mail-steamer from King Eyo Honesty, of Creek Town, Old Calabar, accusing Mr. Henry Matthews, a resident of this island, with attempting to buy a slave and taking five men away (in the schooner "Mary,") belonging to Young Eyo Honesty.

During the conversation I had yesterday with Mr. Matthews on the subject, he candidly acknowledged having, during his stay in Old Calabar, offered to purchase a boy, but with no other motive than to bring him here to act as a domestic servant, and he would in a short time have given him his freedom. This system has frequently been adopted by the residents of this colony, and many of the slaves so liberated have become respectable and honourable members of society.

Mr. Matthews denied the charge of his having taken away Young Eyo Honesty's people with a guilty knowledge. He stated that they got on board his vessel when she was under weigh, and were not discovered till the vessel was well clear of the river.

I have to inform your Lordship that these runaway slaves proceeded to Sierra Leone on the 11th instant in Her Majesty steam-vessel "Conflict."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. W. B. LYNLAGER.

## Inclosure in No. 21.

*King Eyo Honesty to Acting Consul Lynslager.*

My dear Friend,

*Creek Town, Old Calabar, August 25, 1858.*

I BEEN want to write you this by last mail-steamer, only I hear that she will not come back to Fernando Po; because when Thos. J. Hutchinson, Esq., come here last he tell me that he going home, and say he left you in his place, and if I have any palant I much write you, so I write you this, which I hope you will settle it in good ways. The palant is this, that on June Mr. Matthew son come here and call at my son house, and sleep there that night, and nexst day he come and see me, he asks me to sell him a boy, I say nor; and after a lettle he go down to Duk Toun, and on July 5th my son lose 5 of his people. I send to make law at Duks Toun to know if they are there, and after a few day fish mens find the canoe down the rever; then I find that Mr. Matthew son have taking them away, so I write you this to send them back to me; because if this farshion begun we will lose all our people without any cause; I want you to send them back that other may not do the same, and I will promise you that nothing will do them when you send them back to me; and when you come over I will asks you to make a law that nor Fernando Po boats or ships take away our people without master know it, for it will bring palant with us if they doing this farshion. Please send me this



5 boy back to me, and I will give you my word that nothings will do them, for this is too bad when I not willing to sell boy to Mr. Matthew son then he taks them away so ; if you not stop them from doing this farshion, it will bring palant. Other week I hear from my son that Mrs. Matthew boat have come to our rever ; I tell my son not to say or do any things to them till we write you about the boys which her son taks away : you can get them from Mrs. Matthew son and sends them to me. I also tell Mr. Cheetham to speak with you about the same matter, for it will bring palant. I have promise England that I will not sell a slaves, and I will not kettle any slaves when any gentleman die, as we use to do ; and now if Fernando Po people come here and take our people away with them what much we do for we are only very few free people in our comty, you know it well as myself, so I hope and asks you to send this 5 boys back to me, I says again, as I say befor, that I promise and give you my word that I will not do them any things, for I know the boy will be afraid to come back, thinking that I will do them some things ; but tell them that, as I promise you, nothings will do them ; do send them to me as soon as you can. I hope you are quite well, and my best compliments.

I am, &c.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY.

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AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Liberia.*

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No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received June 8.)

My Lord,

*Monrovia, May 10, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of a correspondence, and of attested documents respecting the French emigrant-ship "Regina Cœli," of Nantes.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 22.

*Mr. Mackelvie to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 17, 1858.*

FINDING that the emigrants of the ship "Regina Cœli" are now coming on shore of their own accord, and, at the same time, bringing with them goods, &c., pertaining to the ship, and also that the Krooboys are giving the said emigrants every assistance by bringing the goods on shore; I respectfully request that you will get assistance from the authorities of this place, so that the property stolen may be recovered.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ALEXANDER MACKELVIE.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Warner.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 17, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit you a copy of a despatch, of the 17th of April, from Mr. Alexander Mackelvie, Purser of the royal mail steam-ship "Ethiope."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

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Inclosure 3 in No. 22.

*Mr. Warner to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Department of State, Monrovia, April 17, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note, dated the 17th of April, communicating to me a copy of a despatch of Mr. Alexander Mackelvie, Purser of Royal mail steam-ship "Ethiope."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) D. B. WARNER.

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Inclosure 4 in No. 22.

*Mr. Mackelvie to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 23, 1858.*

AS the late Captain of the French ship "Regina Coeli" has refused to come to a settlement with me, as to the salvage claimed on said ship by me, as agent for Captain Croft, and as I am extremely anxious to have this case of salvage disposed of without further delay, I respectfully beg, Sir, that you will request the Liberian Government to interpose its authority, and cause an immediate adjustment of the salvor's claim, so that I may be relieved from further responsibility in regard to the safety of the vessel. With the hope that you will give me your assistance to have this affair speedily arranged, I have, &c.

(Signed) ALEXANDER MACKELVIE.

Inclosure 5 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Warner.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 23, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit you a copy of a despatch of this day's date, from Mr. Alexander Mackelvie, Purser of the Royal mail steam-ship "Ethiophe."

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 6 in No. 22.

*Mr. Warner to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Department of State, Monrovia, April 24, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 23rd of April, transmitting to this Department a copy of a communication made to you by Mr. Alexander Mackelvie, prize officer in charge of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Coeli," in which communication he requests you to ask the Government to interpose their authority, and cause an immediate adjustment of a salvage difficulty, now pending between him, as agent for Captain Croft, and the late Captain of the French ship "Regina Coeli"

I beg to remark, in reply, that as you are the representative, both of the British and French Governments, and as the difficulty in question has arisen between subjects of the two Governments respectively, and involves in a peculiar manner their interests, it is deemed necessary that you state distinctly, in your despatches addressed to the Department of State, the nature as well as the extent of the interposition that the Government is asked to make in the matter under consideration.

It always affords the Government peculiar pleasure promptly to fulfil its Treaty engagements, and especially those between it and the British and French Governments; but this Department does not consider it as within the competency of the Government to interpose at all in the dispute now pending without a communication in due form from the British or French Consul requesting such interposition.

I beg, however, to inform you that the Judicial Department, if furnished with necessary documents by the disputants, will investigate all the particulars relating to the dispute.

I have, &c.

(Signed) D. B. WARNER.

Inclosure 7 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Mackelvie.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 24, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit you a copy of two despatches of the 17th and 24th of April from the Secretary of State of this Republic, in reply to two despatches, of the 17th and 23rd of April, transmitting copies of your two communications of the same date.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 8 in No. 22.

*Mr. Mackelvie to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 27, 1858.*

AS I think the Liberian authorities are unacquainted with the particulars respecting the recapture of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Coeli," I respectfully request you to furnish them with a detailed statement.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) A. MACKELVIE.

Inclosure 9 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Warner.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 27, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have received a despatch, of the 27th of April, from Mr. Alexander Mackelvie, Purser of the Royal mail steam-ship "Ethiope," wherein he requests me to furnish you a detailed statement respecting the recapture of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Coeli." On Sunday morning, the 11th of this present month, I learnt that the said ship was in the hands of the emigrants on board, and that several of the crew had been murdered. Whereon I addressed you as French Consul, and received your reply, of the 12th of April, wherein you stated that you had instructed the Secretary of the Treasury to take certain steps in the matter.

On the arrival, the 14th instant, of the Royal mail steam-ship "Ethiope" at this port, I communicated from the French Consulate to the Commander of the said "Ethiope" the above facts, and requested him to recapture the "Regina Coeli" if it laid in his power. After the receipt of my despatch the Commander of the "Ethiope" determined to proceed in search of the said emigrant-ship, and left Monrovia the same night.

During the ensuing evening the "Ethiope" returned, and towed the "Regina Coeli" into this port, having recaptured her in the neighbourhood of the Gallinas.

As Mr. Mackelvie is under the impression that you are unacquainted with all the circumstances of the case, he has required me to relate them, and to add that he has, in my presence as English Consul, applied to Captain Simon, late in command of the "Regina Coeli," for a settlement respecting salvage, which he, Captain Simon, positively refused.

In consequence of the said refusal Mr. Mackelvie asks me to seek the aid of the Liberian Government in order to adjudicate the affair.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

## Inclosure 10 in No. 22.

*Mr. Warner to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Department of State, Monrovia, April 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 27th of April, recapitulating the circumstances attending the recapture of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Cœli," in the vicinity of Gallinas, by the Royal mail steam-ship "Ethiope," by request of J. G. C. L. Newnham, Esq., French Consul at this port; said despatch concluding with a request to this Department, that, as Captain Simon, lately commanding said vessel, had refused to come to a settlement respecting salvage, this Government will aid Mr. Alexander Mackelvie to adjudicate the affair.

In reply, I beg to state that this Government, prompted by a feeling of amity, have communicated to Captain Simon the request made to this Department, and tendered its aid to adjudicate by arbitration the claim of Mr. Mackelvie for salvage.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) D. B. WARNER.

## Inclosure 11 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Mackelvie.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit you a copy of a despatch of the 28th of April, from the Secretary of State of this Republic, in reply to my despatch of the 27th of April, furnishing a detailed statement respecting the recapture of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Cœli."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

## Inclosure 12 in No. 22.

*Mr. Lewis to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, May 3, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit you, for the information of A. Mackelvie, Esq., Purser of Royal mail-steamer "Ethiope," a copy of a despatch of the 28th of April from Captain Simon, in reply to one addressed to him by this Department, of the same date, tendering to him the kind offices of this Government, should he desire to have an arbitration of the claim made by Mr. Mackelvie for salvage against the French ship "Regina Cœli." I have the honour further to inform you that the judicial tribunals of Liberia are open to Mr. Mackelvie, and any claims he may bring before them, in the usual course, will have a speedy adjudication.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. N. LEWIS.

## Inclosure 13 in No. 22.

*Captain Simon to Mr. Warner.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, April 28, 1858.*

IN reply to your very kind letter of the 28th instant, in which the British officer in charge of my vessel and her cargo proposed, through your mediation, an adjustment, I beg to say that officer, vested, I suppose, with proper authority by the company to which he belongs, has been informed by the French and British Consul of the protest deposited in his hands on the 16th instant, a protest which the Consul should have communicated to you, or deposited in your Department. Therefore, no adjustment whatever can be made before the solution of the said protest.

I beg that your Government will suffer no procedure to be entered upon in the matter before the arrival of the French Admiral, Commander of the Land and Naval Forces of the West Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) SIMON.

Inclosure 14 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Mackelvie.*

Sir, *Monrovia, May 3, 1858.*  
I HAVE the honour to transmit you a copy of a despatch of the 3rd of May, from the Secretary of State of this Republic, and its inclosure of the 28th of April, from Captain Simon, late in command of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Cœli."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 15 in No. 22.

*Mr. Moore to Consul Newnham.*

Sir, *Judicial Department.*  
I HAVE the honour to inform you that the French emigrant-ship "Regina Cœli," now held in possession of a British subject, namely, Alexander Mackelvie, for salvage, is in possession of the Government for adjudication; legal process having been issued to that effect by the Admiralty Court, on application.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. M. MOORE, *Judge.*

Inclosure 16 in No. 22.

*Consul Newnham to Mr. Mackelvie.*

Sir, *Monrovia, May 10, 1858.*  
I REQUEST to learn the party you intend to appoint as arbitrator in a matter now pending *in re* "Regina Cœli."

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 17 in No. 22.

*Mr. Moore to Consul Newnham.*

Sir, *Judicial Department.*  
THE Court of Admiralty will be ready on Wednesday the 12th instant, at 10 o'clock A.M., to adjudicate the case of salvage brought by Alexander Mackelvie, an English subject, against Captain Simon, a French subject. You will please notify the parties as English and French Consul, to appoint one Arbitrator each; the two having power to a third to meet the Court on the above appointed day and hour.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. M. MOORE.

Inclosure 18 in No. 22.

*Mr. Mackelvie to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*Monrovia, May 11, 1858.*

IN answer to your letter of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that I have appointed J. J. Roberts, Esq., to act as arbitrator for me.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) A. MACKELVIE.

Inclosure 19 in No. 22.

*Mr. Croft to Consul Newnham.*

Sir,

*"Ethiope," Monrovia, April 15, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that according to your request dated April 14th I proceeded April 14th at 11 P.M. in search of the French ship "Regina Cœli," several of the crew of which ship had been barbarously murdered by the emigrants on board, who had afterwards taken possession of the aforesaid ship. At 6.30 A.M. April 15th, arrived at Cape Mount, went on shore and ascertained from the settlers that the ship "Regina Cœli" had been seen April 14th, at 6 P.M., off Gallinas; 8 A.M. sighted the "Regina Cœli" off Gallinas, drifting about, quite unmanageable, close to the shore; 9 A.M. steamed close alongside the "Regina Cœli," at the same time discovered the master of the aforesaid ship in a small boat without gun-shot of the pirates. The Captain of the "Regina Cœli" informed me in the presence of several passengers, that he had been watching the aforesaid ship several days, but that the pirates always fired at him when within gun-shot, and showed warlike demonstrations to any person or persons attempting to go on board. 9.15 A.M. held a parley with the pirates, who finally delivered the aforesaid ship "Regina Cœli" over to my charge, upon which I sent my second officer and several of the crew of the screw steamer "Ethiope" to take charge of the "Regina Cœli" as a prize of the aforesaid steamer "Ethiope." 9.30 A.M. steamed ahead with the "Regina Cœli" in tow for Monrovia. 9.45 A.M. when cutting the anchor on board-starboard the prize, the chain of the starboard anchor ran out, which brought the ship up suddenly, carrying away towing hawser: sent chief officer and several seamen on board to weigh the "Regina Cœli's" anchor; 10.45 A.M. steamed ahead. 7.30 P.M. April 15th, arrived at Monrovia all safe with the "Regina Cœli," and anchored her off Cape Messurado with officer in charge.

April 16th appointed Mr. Mackelvie my agent, and handed the ship "Regina Cœli" over to him.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) A. J. M. CROFT,  
*Master of the Steam-ship "Ethiope."*

Signed before me, in my office at Monrovia, this 16th day of April, 1858.

(Signed) J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 20 in No. 22.

*Certificate.*

*Monrovia, April 15, 1858.*

WE, the Undersigned, passengers on board the Royal African Mail steam-ship "Ethiope," whereof A. J. M. Croft is Captain, do hereby certify:

That, on the 4th instant, the French Consul of Monrovia gave to Captain Croft a requisition to retake a French ship called the "Regina Cœli," of Nantes, whereof Captain Simon was Master, but which ship was then in possession of natives, originally shipped as emigrants for the French Colonies, who had murdered the crew on board, and which ship was then either afloat or ashore in the neighbourhood of Cape Mount.

That the aforesaid French ship "Regina Cœli" was descried this morning steering

for the land, and after a long chase was duly taken possession of by Captain Croft, about half a mile from the beach.

That the Captain of the said ship came on board the "Ethiope" in an open boat, and narrated the facts of eleven of his crew having been murdered, and himself and boat's crew fired upon in every instance he had attempted to retake her.

And that we are of opinion that the taking of the said ship was a matter of serious risk, owing to the excited state of the natives on board, who exhibited the fetters and manacles they had been brought on board the ship in, prior to the outbreak.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

DAVID CHINERY.

A. C. HUTTON.

F. F. VALENTIN.

JOHN H. GLOVER, *Lieutenant, R.N.*

WM. TIMSON.

JOHN CHILLINGWORTH.

Signed before me, in my office at Monrovia, this 16th day of April, 1858.

(Signed)

J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.

Inclosure 21 in No. 22.

*Mr. Croft to Mr. Mackelvic.*

Sir,

"Ethiope," April 16, 1858.

I HEREBY authorize you to take charge of the French emigrant-ship "Regina Cœli," of Nantes, until there be had a final settlement respecting salvage; upon payment of which I further authorize you to give a discharge.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. J. M. CROFT.

Signed before me, in my office at Monrovia, this 16th day of April, 1858.

(Signed)

J. G. C. L. NEWNHAM.



AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Sherbro River.*

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No. 23.

*Consul General Hill to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 14)*

My Lord,

*Government House, Sierra Leone, June 16, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Macartney, the Manager of the Western Districts of this Colony, has reported to me as follows:—

“I think it well to inform you, for the information of the Governor, that the Spaniards are reported to me as making large purchases of slaves in the Gallinas, where they have built two large houses, in which they are stowing them, and have two vessels waiting to take them away when a sufficient number are collected.

“My informant, though a Banana man, may almost be considered a native of Gallinas river, having been reared there, visiting this part only occasionally; my boatmen, who know him well, seem to think that he speaks the truth.”

I am inclined to believe that the information thus conveyed to Mr. Macartney is correct, and I have therefore furnished the Admiral and the Senior Officer of this Division of the Squadron with copies of the above extract; in addition to which I have considered it my duty to make the Consul-General for Spain residing here acquainted with the circumstance.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

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No. 24.

*Consul-General Hill to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

*Government House, Sierra Leone, July 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Commander FitzRoy, of Her Majesty's brig “Childers,” having visited the Gallinas, reports that after a diligent search he could not discover any vessel within that river; but the messengers of Prince Mannah, mistaking the “Childers” for an American brig, told him 750 slaves were ready for shipment, which they were obliged to keep at some distance in the interior, fearing the scrutiny of the vessels of war.

This officer also states that the horrors attendant on slave-hunting are in full force at the Gallinas. Prince Mannah and Prince Saltfish having barricaded their towns and made war on those in their neighbourhood, villages are deserted, and, in many cases, the natives, in their haste to escape the miseries of slavery, have abandoned their property, cattle, &c.

I regret to think that the revival of this infamous traffic and its consequent amount of human misery may be with justice attributed to the French Emigration scheme, and the trade carried on by American-built vessels, polluting the flag of the United States.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

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BRAZIL.

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No. 25.

*Mr. Scarlett to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 18.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, February 17, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 3rd instant,\* transmitting a correspondence with the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, about the probable attempt to effect a landing of slaves from the coast of Africa during the month of March in the neighbourhood of Santos to the south of Rio de Janeiro, and in allusion to the complicity of Rivarozza y Urguelles, and of the Portuguese Antonio Luiz, in that business, I have, since writing the above-mentioned despatch, received another note from Viscount Maranguape on the same subject, with an inclosure from the Minister of Justice, informing me that, in consequence of the information received from Her Majesty's Legation, orders had been sent to arrest both the individuals just named, who are said to be engaged in the transaction to which I referred.

I herewith inclose copies of these documents for your Lordship's information.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

*Viscount Maranguape to Mr. Scarlett.*

(Translation.)

*Rio de Janeiro, February 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to my communication of the 28th ultimo, I have the honour to bring to the knowledge of Mr. Peter Campbell Scarlett, &c., the inclosed copy of a report addressed to me on the 12th instant by the Minister of Justice.

From the same, Mr. Scarlett will see that prompt and proper measures have been taken by the Imperial Government, in order to frustrate the attempt to effect the disembarkation of Africans, announced in Mr. Scarlett's note of the 26th of said month.

I have, &c.

(Signed) VISCONDE DE MARANGUAPE.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

*The Minister of Justice to Viscount Maranguape.*

(Translation.)

*Rio de Janeiro, February 12, 1858.*

IN consequence of the note of your Excellency of the 28th ultimo, in which you communicated to me the news given by Her Britannic Majesty's Legation at this Court, respecting Don Francisco Rivarozza y Urguelles, who, the said Legation says, came from Monte Video to Cananea, in the province of San Paulo, where he meditated effecting a disembarkation of Africans, which is to take place in all the month of February,

I at once requested the Minister of Marine to put into activity the vigilance of the cruisers. I ordered the Chief of Police to ascertain what truth there may be in this report, and instructed the President of San Paulo to cause the apprehension of Rivarozza, and of all other persons who may be associated with him towards the committing of this crime; and called the attention of the Presidents of the Maritime Provinces to it, in order that they may be on their guard against any attempts to land Africans.

The President of San Paulo answered me, that on the 4th instant, besides the orders which he immediately sent to Santos and Iguape, he caused a captain in the army to march with sufficient force and pecuniary means to effect the capture of Rivarozza and the Portuguese, Antonio Luiz, to prevent the landing, and in case of its having taken place, to capture the Africans, the vessel, and her crew.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCISCO DIEGO PEREIRA DE VASCONCELLOS.

No. 26.

*Mr. Scarlett to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 12.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, March 26, 1858.*

I HAVE recently obtained from the River Plate information on the subject of certain Slave Trade operations which have their origin in that quarter.

Less than a month ago two slave-trading Captains were awaiting orders at Monte Video to fit out vessels for Africa.

One of them is the notorious Vicente Madalena.

I have also obtained copies of two letters written by Guilherme Corrêa and a certain Salvador de Castro respecting the receipt of negroes in Cuba, which prove that Joaquim da Fonseca Guimarães & Co. of this city, and Dr. Francisco Rivarozza, both notorious slave-traders, were concerned in the speculation of the schooner "*Cobra*," which landed her cargo at Trinidad de Cuba, as is shown in the account of the sale of a part of the said cargo belonging to Madalena.

I have the honour to inclose herewith the copies of the letters to which I have alluded.

It has also been reported to me here, and to Vice-Admiral Wallis at Monte Video, that a pilot boat of 180 tons, named "*União*," left Punta della Colonia on the 3rd of March, to carry slaves from Africa to Cuba.

A Spanish Captain, named José Arrautto, was fitting out a Spanish barque for the Traffic from the River Plate, but my informant has not been able to learn her name.

I have reason to think that the River Plate is now in much favour with the slave-traders, on account of the facility it offers for laying in provisions and water, and the security they enjoy up the different rivers.

The person named Madalena, to whom I have referred, is furnished with a pilot's warrant to navigate between Monte Video and Buenos Ayres.

I duly informed Admiral Wallis of the expected Slave Trade operation under the auspices of Rivarozza, mentioned in my despatch of the 3rd February, and that a schooner under the American flag was expected on the coast of Brazil, in the neighbourhood of Santos, during this month; and in consequence he has sent a brig of war to look out for her.

It has been reported to me that a certain person named Suzini, the Agent of the Royal Mail Steam-Packet Company at Monte Video, is connected with these speculations.

The present unprotected state of the Brazilian coast, combined with the operation which are undoubtedly being projected in the River Plate, render it very desirable that some additional small steamers of war should be added just now to the squadron on this station, which is by no means sufficiently numerous for the duties it ought to perform.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

## Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

*Senhor de Castro to Don Francisco Raviroza.*

(Translation.)

*Trinidad de Cuba, December 29, 1852.*

WITHOUT any of your favours to reply to, the present serves to tell you, that I avail myself of the occasion of the departure of Don Vicente Madalena, who came here commanding the pilot-boat "*Cobra*," and he can inform you, in reply to the recommendation contained in your last of the 15th October, in the name of Messrs. Fonseca Guimarães and Co., that the said vessel brought none of the individuals who you in your said letter told me were to come on board of her, nor did she bring any cargo for you, for which reason I could not do anything for those gentlemen in compliance with your recommendation.

The pilot-boat "*Providencia*" lately arrived on the northern coast, having thirty packages shipped to my consignment by M. Antonio José de Costa Lima, as advised by him, and Dr. Rodrigo José de Abreu told me that the said packages might be belonging to Lima Vianna, but as they do not come addressed to me by him, I cannot but withhold the net proceeds of them, under the pretext of not being able to discount the documents received for their value, which those gentlemen may clear up through the means of Mr. Flores in Ambriz; if those packages are in effect the property of Mr. L. Vianna, and in that case an order be sent from him for me to deliver the amount for his account, I shall comply with it, for, as you must know, if I were to act otherwise I should commit myself.

You may well conceive how much I wish to please you and to comply with your recommendation, but upon this subject from the manner in which it has been directed, I should be committing myself if I were to act otherwise.

The bearer of this will inform you of the state of affairs here, and of the favourable result of what he brought.

I am impatient to know something about the "*Canario*," for until the present there is no news here of her.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) SALVADOR DE CASTRO.

N.B.—The account of sale is merely that of four negroes belonging to Captain Madalena and forming a part of the cargo of the "*Cobra*."

## Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

*Senhor Correa to Captain Madalena.*

(Translation.)

*Rio Zaire, Congo, August 26, 1852.*

YOU are going to sea on board the schooner "*Cobra*," which conveys 325 passengers, of whom I hope you will take the greatest care in order that there may be small mortality, for you well know that the less loss there is the better.

You are to proceed to the Havana, to the point which Don Salvador de Castro may designate, and there deliver the cargo to him or to the person who may present to you a letter signed by him, and after disembarking the people you will cause the vessel to be sunk, as I think she will be good for nothing. Confiding in your accustomed zeal, I wish you a prosperous voyage.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) GUILHERME JOSE DA CORREA.

## No. 27.

*Mr. Scarlett to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 12.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, April 1, 1858.*

ON the receipt of a despatch from your Lordship, which I have already acknowledged, dated December 8, 1857,\* accompanying the copy of a communication

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 100.

from Mr. Consul Cowper at Pernambuco, exposing the abuses which have so often been, for some time, practised at the northern ports of Brazil by an extensive exportation of negroes to other ports, and to their removal by sale to parts of the Empire at a distance from the districts in which they were born and brought up; I immediately addressed to Viscount Maranguape a note on this subject, a copy of which I have the honour to inclose, founded upon your Lordship's instruction to me on that head, and on Mr. Cowper's statement.

I have only lately received the Minister's reply to this representation, of which I now inclose a copy, and in which I am assured that the attention of the Government has already been directed to the circumstances I had brought before him, and that endeavours will be used to prevent the revival of the Slave Trade under the system complained of.

Your Lordship will observe in the note of Viscount Maranguape that his Excellency alludes to the desire evinced by the Legislature of Maranhão to check the exportation of negroes from that province by a law which imposes a tax of 200\$000 (22*l.* 10*s.*) for each slave sent from that to any other province.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27

*Mr. Scarlett to Viscount Maranguape.*

*Rio de Janeiro, January 8, 1858.*

THE Undersigned, &c., has been instructed by his Government to appeal, strongly, to the justice and humanity of the Imperial Government on the subject of the coasting trade in Brazilian slaves, which has for some time been a disgrace to this country.

And, in order to show that this iniquitous trade exists, and continues, the Undersigned regrets to add, with the permission of the Brazilian authorities, the Undersigned has the honour to inclose an extract from the Pernambuco "Jornal do Commercio" of the 22nd of September last, depicting some of the horrors connected with this traffic.

The state of the steamer "Imperatriz," upon her arrival at Pernambuco from Maranhão, referred to by this publication, is not a solitary instance, but one of weekly occurrence.

The Undersigned is unable to comprehend the reported policy of that province in encouraging the free export of the slaves, and strictly prohibiting their import, one effect of which is unquestionably to make Maranhão, according to the "Jornal," the Coast of Africa of Brazil.

The Undersigned is convinced that the Province of Maranhão, on account of its latitude and burning climate, is the least likely to obtain hereafter the aid of the white free labourers, instead of black slaves, and the consequent removal of the black creole population will only render it the more impossible to fill up the vacancy thus created, by any other means than that of resorting to the still more iniquitous and illegal Traffic in Slaves from the Continent of Africa, which, in spite of the Government, the fazendeiros will be ultimately tempted to renew.

The Undersigned trusts that the Imperial Government will, on reflection, take the same view of this question as that taken by the Government of the Queen, and that it will not hesitate, when the Legislature meets, to propose a law prohibiting the export or removal of slaves from the provinces in which they were born, and as a primary step, to interdict, at once, vessels subsidized by the Government, carrying its mails, troops, &c., and commanded by officers of the Imperial Marine, like the "Imperatriz" and others, from carrying these unfortunate people to other provinces for the purpose of being sold at a distance from their natural homes.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

*Viscount Maranguape to Mr. Scarlett.*

(Translation.)

*Rio de Janeiro, February 4, 1858.*

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which, on the 8th of January now last past, was addressed to me by Mr. P. Campbell Scarlett, &c., and wherein he points out the danger of a renewal of Slave Trade in the Empire, from the continuance of the practice until the present followed, of slaves being sent from one province to another for sale, and quotes that of Maranham as the province which most contributes towards that danger.

Mr. Scarlett is aware of the solicitude with which the Imperial Government has endeavoured to render effective the repression of the Slave Trade from the Coast of Africa to Brazil.

The said Government will not, therefore, fail to adopt adequate measures for that purpose, if, from the transport of slaves from one province to another, the danger should accrue, which is feared by Mr. Scarlett, of encouragement being afforded to that trade upon any part of the Empire.

This subject, which especially and exclusively interests the Empire, has already been taken into due consideration by the powers of the State, and is an object which claims the greatest solicitude of the Imperial Government, not from any apprehension of the revival of the Slave Trade, but from other inconveniences which may arise from the practice alluded to, if carried on to any great extent.

The Legislative Assembly of Maranham has already manifested itself in a positive manner against the exportation of slaves from the province, by a law which imposes a tax of 200\$000 (22l. 10s.) for each slave sent from that to any other province of the Empire.

I refer to this circumstance in order to show Mr. Scarlett that the same solicitude is felt by the Governments of the provinces of the Empire, which are those that are best aware of their own interests.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

VISCONDE DE MARANGUAPE.

## No. 28.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Scarlett.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, May 29, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,\* reporting the arrival at that place of Dr. Saturnino de Souza e Oliveira, who has been appointed to succeed Senhor Gama in the post of Brazilian Consul-General for the Province of Angola; and I have to instruct you to convey to the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the instructions with which it would appear that Dr. Oliveira is furnished, directing him to communicate freely with Her Majesty's authorities on all matters relating to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

## No. 29.

*Mr. Scarlett to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 14.)*

(Extract.)

*Rio de Janeiro, April 22, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of September 5, 1857, respecting the manumission of the woman Caroline and her children, said to be unlawfully declared as slaves by Senhor José Garcia da Silva, in the province of the Amazons, I herewith have the honour to inclose an extract of a letter I have received from Mr. Consul Vredenberg at Pará, informing me that those persons have all been liberated.

Inclosure in No. 29.

*Consul Vredenberg to Mr. Scarlett.*

(Extract.)

*Pará, March 8, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to refer your Excellency to Mr. Vines' despatch of May 9, 1857, relative to a woman named Caroline, who, with her children, had been illegally reduced to slavery by Senhor da Silva at Camela.

I yesterday had an interview with the person from whom Mr. Vines received the information which he communicated to your Excellency, and he informed me that Caroline and her children are now free, and the documents assuring their freedom properly registered.

No. 30.

*Mr. Scarlett to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 14.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, May 3, 1858.*

A QUESTION has been raised by the house of Mackay, Miller, and Co. at Rio de Janeiro, agents for a British Mining Association in this country, called the Imperial Brazilian Mining Company, as to the legality of transferring in servitude to another Company, by a contract previously made in London, the children of the slaves who have been born subsequent to the Act of Parliament, 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, by which Act only those negroes were to be considered as slaves by British subjects who had acquired them before the Act passed the Legislature in England.

In consequence a correspondence has taken place between Her Majesty's Consul at this port and myself, copies of which I have the honour to inclose.

It is my opinion, as well as Mr. Westwood's, that a more definite and positive interpretation should be given to the provisions of the Act in question, not only in order, in this instance, to enable Messrs. Miller and Co. to make a legal disposition of the negroes belonging to the Company, but to remove doubts in which similar transactions will inevitably be involved at a future date, unless the Act is rendered more intelligible.

By Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 4th of September, it is evident that his Lordship considers the children of slaves, born subsequently to the passing of that Act, as entitled to their freedom at the hands of British subjects; but it is exceedingly desirable that the question should, if possible, be set at rest by a reference to the Law Officers of the Crown in Great Britain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

P.S.—I had the honour of forwarding to the Earl of Clarendon copies of the correspondence alluded to in Mr. Westwood's despatch in my despatch to his Lordship of 14th December, 1857.\*

P. C. S.

Inclosure 1 in No. 30.

*Consul Westwood to Mr. Scarlett.*

Sir,

*Rio de Janeiro, April 30, 1858.*

IN my despatch dated the 14th December last, I reported to your Excellency certain proceedings that had come to my knowledge, connected with the disposal of the slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association; and I have now the honour to acquaint you with what further information has reached me on the subject.

It appears that after the arrival of Mr. Hitchens in London, the Directors of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association became desirous of annulling the sale made to Senhor Santos, and of carrying into effect the provisional contract made by Mr. Hitchens with the Brazilian Company "União e Industria," by the conditions of which, as your

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 106.

Excellency is already aware, the services of the slaves belonging to the Association were proposed to be ceded for a term of twenty years, at the expiration of which period those who might be still living were to have their freedom; and the agents of the Association in this city received instructions to sign the necessary legal documents to confirm the contract in question.

In the course of their proceedings, the agents here, Messrs. Mackay, Miller, and Co. sought my official advice in the matter; and after different conversations which have taken place between us, they appear reluctant to complete the necessary legal transfers, and I think it probable that the case may again be referred to London.

In the mean time, Messrs. Miller and Co. have requested me to give them, in writing, the substance of the opinion which I have verbally expressed, respecting the legality of the sale or transfer of the slaves belonging to the Association, and I have, under to-day's date, written a letter which I purpose sending them; but before doing so, I am anxious to have your Excellency's opinion on the matter, and I have, therefore, the honour to inclose for your consideration a copy of the letter in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 30.

*Consul Westwood to Messrs. Mackay, Miller, and Co.*

Gentlemen,

*Rio de Janeiro, April 30, 1858.*

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 27th instant, having reference to our verbal communications on the subject of the proposed transfer or leasing of the services of the slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, and requesting to be informed whether the children of the slaves born since the promulgation of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, are considered as slaves, or can be hired with their parents.

By the Act in question, British subjects are not prohibited from selling slaves which were lawfully in their possession before the date of that Statute, namely, 1st of November, 1843; consequently, it will be no violation of law to sell or transfer the slaves which were legally in the possession of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association prior to the passing of the Act.

But I am of opinion that it would be illegal, and a violation of the law to sell, or transfer, the children of such slaves who have been born since the 1st of November, 1843.

These children, not having been in existence at the date of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, nor since acquired *bonâ fide* by inheritance, devise, bequest, or marriage, as set forth in Section 6 of the said Act, cannot, according to my impression, be dealt with as slaves by British subjects, without a violation of the law.

With regard to the manner of disposing of such children I have to observe, that although it appears to me rational, and in accordance with common humanity, that they should not be separated from their parents, and that it might even be considered advisable that their services should also be hired with their parents, as proposed in the contract between the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association and the Company "União e Industria," under the conditions of which, all that may be living at the termination of the period specified are to be free, still I cannot see how the expediency of such a measure, and its legality, can be reconciled.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD

Inclosure 3 in No. 30.

*Mr. Scarlett to Consul Westwood.*

Sir,

*Theresopolis, May 2, 1858.*

I HAVE received your despatch, inclosing the copy of a reply you have made to the question raised by Messrs. Mackay, Miller, and Co., with reference to the disposal of the negroes belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association.



The opinion you have given to Messrs. Mackay and Co. in that reply is in accordance with my own, which I have already expressed to you verbally on the subject.

The Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, appears clearly to indicate that unless slaves have been acquired by British subjects by inheritance, devise, bequest, or marriage, since the passing of the Act of Parliament in question in the year 1843, they cannot legally be held in slavery.

There does not appear to be in that Act an explicit declaration whether or not, when slaves have been legally acquired, their children born subsequently to the Act are also slaves; but from a despatch I have received recently from the Earl of Clarendon, with the contents of which you are acquainted, his Lordship expresses his own belief that the Act in question could not have meant to treat as slaves the children of slaves born after that Act was made law, although their parents continued to be slaves, having been legally acquired as such previous to the existence of that Act of Parliament.

It may be as well, also, that Messrs. Mackay and Co. should be reminded that by a bye-law passed by the Company for which they are acting, in the year 1826 or 1827, all negroes in the service of that Company born after the enactment of that bye-law were to obtain their liberty at the age of 21.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) P. CAMPBELL SCARLETT.

## No. 31.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Stuart.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 31, 1858.*

I HAVE to acquaint you that I referred for the consideration of the proper Law Officers of the Crown, Mr. Scarlett's despatch of the 3rd of May last, together with its inclosures, upon a question which has been raised by the house of Mackay, Miller, and Co., of Rio de Janeiro, the agents of a British Mining Association, called the "Imperial Brazilian Mining Company," as to the legality of transferring in servitude to another Company the children of slaves belonging to the British Company, who have been born subsequently to the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98; and, in conformity with the opinion of Her Majesty's Law Officers upon this question, I have now to state to you, that it is unlawful, and against the statute, for British subjects to sell, or assign over, the services of slaves born since the passing of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, and that British subjects doing so render themselves liable to a charge of felony under that statute.

I have further to acquaint you, that I concur in the observations on this subject which are contained in the letter addressed by Mr. Consul Westwood to Messrs. Mackay and Co., and of which a copy is inclosed in Mr. Scarlett's despatch above referred to.

It will be advisable, therefore, that you should inform any British subjects who may be engaged in these transactions, that although they may, while resident in Brazil, be out of the reach of British law, they will be subject to be brought to trial under the statute at any time when they may be found either on British ground or in a British vessel; and that any person in this country who authorises their acts will be liable to be indicted as an accessory before the fact.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 32.

*Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 3.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, August 28, 1858.*

I DO myself the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, translations of a note, and its inclosures, which I have received from the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs, showing, that since the month of January last sixteen more of the freed Africans, who were missing from amongst those landed from the pilot-boat at Serinhaem in October 1855, have been recovered, and that, with the exception of one who is stated to have died of paralysis, they are now employed at the Marine Arsenal in Pernambuco.

I likewise inclose a copy of a note which I have addressed to Viscount Maranguape thanking him for the satisfactory information contained in the said documents.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

*Viscount de Maranguape to Mr. Stuart.*

(Translation.)  
Sir,

*Rio de Janeiro, August 18, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to Mr. W. Stuart, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, in order that he may deign to bring it to the knowledge of his Government, the official despatch which the President of Pernambuco addressed to me on the 3rd instant; as likewise a list of the freed Africans, who, forming part of those who were missing from the pilot-boat which, in October 1855, put into Serinhaem, and have been seized from the months of January to July now last past, are at present employed in the Naval Arsenal of that province.

According to the communication received from the said President, only two, or even one, of the said Africans remained unseized, taking into account those who may probably have perished.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) VISCONDE DE MARANGUAPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

*The President of the Province of Pernambuco to Viscount de Maranguape.*

(Translation.)  
Sir,

*Pernambuco, August 3, 1858.*

I CONSIDER it to be my duty to forward to your Excellency the inclosed list of Africans belonging to the number of those who were missing from on board the pilot-boat which put into Serinhaem in October 1855, and who have been seized from January to July now last past; and it is proper that I should state to you, that only two or even one African still remains uncaptured, taking into account those who probably have perished.

I renew, &c.  
(Signed) BENVENUTO AUGUSTO DE MAGS. JAQUES.

## Inclosure 3 in No. 32.

List of the freed Africans seized from the 31st January to 31st July, 1858.

Names.	Where Seized.	Verification.	Destiny.
Francisco .. } Henrique .. } Agrippa .. } Isabel .. }	At Ipojuca	{ Proved to have been missing from the pilot-boat which put into Serinhaem in October, 1855. }	Marine Arsenal.
Luiza, minor .. ..	ditto	ditto	ditto.
Luiz .. .. } Luiza .. .. }	ditto	ditto	ditto.
Francisco .. } Bray .. .. } Simdo .. .. }	ditto	ditto	ditto.
Thomé .. ..	Cabo	ditto	ditto.
Felicidade .. ..	Ipojuca	ditto	ditto.
Felix .. .. ..	ditto	ditto	{ ditto, where he died of paralysis. }
Manoel .. ..	Rio Formeso	ditto	Marine Arsenal.
Joaquim .. ..	Escada	ditto	ditto.
João .. ..	ditto.	ditto	ditto.

*Pernambuco, August 3, 1858.*

## Inclosure 4 in No. 32.

*Mr. Stuart to Viscount de Maranguape.*

M. le Ministre,

*Rio de Janeiro, August 28, 1858.*

I BEG to thank your Excellency for communicating to me, in the note with which you honoured me on the 18th instant, the gratifying intelligence that the President of the Province of Pernambuco had succeeded in recovering sixteen more of the freed Africans who had been missing from amongst those landed from the pilot-boat at Serinhaem in October 1855.

Agreeably to your Excellency's request, I shall not fail to forward copies of your esteemed note and its inclosures to the Earl of Malmesbury for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

## No. 33.

*Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 6.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, November 2, 1858.*

UPON the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st of August last, I addressed a despatch to Mr. Consul Westwood, requesting him to inform the agents of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, that, in the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, it is unlawful for British subjects to sell or assign over the services of slaves born since the passing of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98, and that British subjects doing so render themselves liable to a charge of felony under that statute.

Your Lordship will find inclosed a copy of a despatch which I received from Mr. Consul Westwood, containing copies (likewise inclosed) of the answers which had been returned to him by Messrs. Mackay, Miller, and Co., and by Mr. Schofield, who lately came out to Rio de Janeiro as the accredited attorney of the Mining Association in question, for the purpose of completing the sale of the slaves belonging to the Company. As this gentleman had been fairly warned of the possible consequences of such a proceeding, I agreed with Mr. Westwood that it was no part of our duty to interfere further than to report to your Lordship whether or not the proposed sale of the slaves was persisted in.

More mature reflection, however, led Mr. Schofield to come to me for advice. He showed me the eminent legal opinion and the order from the High Court of Chancery to which he alludes in his letter to Mr. Westwood, and stated that, with those documents in one scale of the balance, and the official knowledge of the purport of my instructions in the other, he was placed in a position of great embarrassment. I told him that it was not for me to reconcile the conflicting opinions brought in presence; that my instructions from your Lordship were clear and precise; and that I was bound to consider them as correctly interpreting the law of England, until I was advised to the contrary in the same official manner. I added that I had no desire whatever to interfere with his course of conduct; but that, as he wished for my advice, I could only give it him in the sense of my instructions, and that would be to abstain from effecting the sale, unless he was prepared to incur the risk of being brought to trial upon a charge of felony when he landed in England.

Mr. Schofield then said that, with the Chancery Order, which he had in his possession, there could be no doubt as to such a trial resulting in an acquittal; but that a public prosecution would entail a ruinous expense upon him, and the charge would be one on which he would meet with but little sympathy in England: he would, therefore, be ready to abandon the sale and to return to England by the next packet, if I would address him an official letter in the sense of your Lordship's instructions, which would serve to justify him in the eyes of his employers.

This I readily consented to do, and a copy of my letter to him forms Inclosure No. 4 to this despatch.

I further inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a circular despatch, which I addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil on the 12th ultimo, in order that the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown as to the legality of the sale of slaves born subsequently to the passing of the Act of 1843, may be made generally known amongst British subjects engaged in such transactions within this empire.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

*Consul Westwood to Mr. Stuart.*

Sir,

*Rio de Janeiro, October 13, 1858.*

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your despatch dated the 11th instant, I communicated to the agents of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association the opinion given by the Law Officers of the Crown, that it is unlawful, and against the statute, for British subjects to sell or assign over the services of slaves born since the passing of the Act 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98; and I now have the honour to transmit herewith, for your information, copy of the answer which I have received from Messrs. Mackay, Miller, and Co., as well as copy of a letter addressed to me by Mr. John Schofield, who is now the accredited agent in this country of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association.

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

## Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

*Messrs. Mackay, Miller, and Co. to Consul Westwood.*

Sir,

*Rio de Janeiro, October 12, 1858.*

WE have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, respecting the sale or transfer of slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association.

The purport of your letter we have communicated to Mr. John Schofield, the accredited attorney of the Association in this country; and we beg leave to wait upon you with that gentleman's reply on the subject.

We take leave to inform you that we have not anything further to do in negotiations respecting the disposal of the Company's property, and if you deem any further communication necessary, you will please have the goodness to address the same to Mr. Schofield.

We are, &amp;c.

(Signed) MACKAY, MILLER, AND CO.

## Inclosure 3 in No. 33.

*Mr. Schofield to Consul Westwood.*

Sir,

*12, Rua dos Pescadores, Rio de Janeiro, October 12, 1858.*

MESSRS. MACKAY, MILLER, & CO. having handed me your letter of the 11th instant, in which you state that, with reference to the legality of the sale or transfer of the slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, you have received instructions from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at this Court to make known that the Law Officers of the Crown have decided it is unlawful for British subjects to sell or assign over the services of slaves born since the passing of the Statute 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, I beg to inform you, on behalf of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, which I represent in this country, that the first Law Officer of the Crown and present Attorney-General, Sir Fitzroy Kelly, the late first Law Officer of the Crown and Attorney-General, Sir Richard Bethell, and J. H. Lloyd and J. G. Malcolm, Esquires, Barristers-at-law, have given the following opinion on the same subject:—

"This Association, having existed before the 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, came into operation, and the slaves in question being such as were at that time the property of the Association, or the children born of those slaves, we are of opinion that the sale to persons in the Brazils, not the subjects of or amenable to the laws of the British Crown, of the slaves of the Association so acquired and held, and of the children born of those slaves, is lawful;" and that the Lords Justices of Her Majesty's High Court of Chancery, on the hearing of the cause "*Carter versus Illidge* and others, Directors of the said Association," the said Lords Justices, by their decree, dated the 3rd day of August last, did "order that the defendants, as the Directors of the said Association, do sell to any person or persons in Brazil, not the subject or subjects of, or amenable to the laws of the British Crown, the slaves of the said Association in Brazil, acquired by such Association before the Statute 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, came into operation, and the children in Brazil born of those slaves."

The foregoing documents are open to the inspection of yourself and Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at any time you may think proper.

The order of the Lords Justices not only completely establishes the legality of a sale by the Company of its slaves born since 1843, but it renders the Directors liable to imprisonment for contempt of Court were they to disobey it, and all parties impeding the Directors in their attempts to carry out the order are liable to similar consequences.

I presume you have erroneously used too strong a term in stating the Law Officers of the Crown had decided the question, as you must be aware the decision of such legal questions is the exclusive province of Her Majesty's Courts of Law and Equity only; and the decision of the latter having established the legality of the Company's proceedings, I trust you will feel it necessary to discontinue further interference in the matter.

If you deem it necessary you have my permission to make this communication known to Her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOHN SCHOFIELD

Inclosure 4 in No. 33.

*Mr. Stuart to Mr. Schofield.*

*Rio de Janeiro, November 2, 1858.*

Sir,

IN accordance with your verbal request, and in confirmation of what has already been stated to you by Her Majesty's Consul, I beg hereby to inform you, in writing, that instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, under date of the 31st of August last, affirm very distinctly that the question raised by the house of Mackay, Miller, and Co., the agents of a British Company called the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, as to the legality of transferring in servitude to another Company, the children of slaves belonging to the British Company, who have been born subsequently to the Act 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, had been referred for the consideration of the proper Law Officers of the Crown, and that in the opinion of those gentlemen it is unlawful, and against the Statute, for British subjects to sell or assign over the services of slaves born since the passing of the above Act, and British subjects doing so, render themselves liable to a charge of felony under that Statute.

Lord Malmesbury, therefore, advises me to inform any British subjects who may be engaged in such transactions as the above, that although they may, whilst resident in Brazil, be out of the reach of British law, they will be subject to be brought to trial under the Statute, at any time when they may be found either on British ground or in a British vessel, and that any person in Great Britain who authorizes these acts will be liable to be indicted as an accessory before the fact.

You are now fully made acquainted with the scope of the instructions under which I am acting, and in reply to your application for advice, under the embarrassing circumstances in which you are placed, I can give you no other than that which those instructions necessarily imply.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

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Inclosure 5 in No. 33.

*Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Consuls in Brazil.*

Sir,

*Rio de Janeiro, October 12, 1858.*

IT is of importance that you should know, for the information of British subjects residing within your Consular district, that a question which was lately raised as to the legality of transferring in servitude to another Company, the children of slaves belonging to a British Company who have been born subsequently to the Act 6 & 7 Vict., cap. 98, has been referred by Her Majesty's Government to the consideration of the Law Officers of the Crown, and that I have received a despatch from the Earl of Malmesbury, stating, in conformity with the opinion of those officers, that it is unlawful, and against the Statute, for British subjects to sell or consign over the services of slaves born since the passing of the Act above mentioned; and that British subjects doing so, render themselves liable to a charge of felony under that Statute.

It will, therefore, be your duty to make known to any British subjects who may be engaged in such transactions, that although they may, while resident in Brazil, be out of the reach of British law, they will be subject to be brought to trial under the Statute, at any time when they may be found either on British ground, or in a British vessel; and that any person in Great Britain who authorizes these acts, will be liable to be indicted as an accessory before the fact.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

P.S.—You will duly communicate this despatch to the Vice-Consuls within your district.

W. S.

*Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 6.)*

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 6, 1858.

SINCE closing my despatch of the 2nd instant, I have received a letter from Mr. John Schofield, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy herewith; and I would call your Lordship's special attention to the third paragraph of the letter, in which an important question is raised as to the maintenance of the children of the slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, who were born subsequently to the passing of the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

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Inclosure in No. 34.

*Mr. Schofield to Mr. Stuart.*

Sir,

Rio de Janeiro, November 5, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd instant, communicating to me the purport of the instructions you have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs under the date of the 31st day of August last, relative to the proposed sale by the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association of the children of slaves belonging to that Association, who have been born since the 1st day of November, 1843.

The instructions you refer to, being contained in a despatch dated subsequently to the Decree of the Court of Chancery made on the 4th day of August last, by which Decree the Directors were ordered to sell the children of the slaves in question, I am bound to view your intimation of the sale being illegal, and the threatened liability to a criminal prosecution of the Company's agents here, and of any person in Great Britain who authorizes their acts, as a positive prohibition by the British Government against carrying out the Decree of the Court of Chancery; and I have, therefore, determined not to act on the Decree, but to return to England by the steamer on the 9th instant, to lay the position of the affair before the Directors of the Association, preparatory to applying to the Court of Chancery for authority to act under the altered circumstances.

It may not be inopportune to mention, for the information of the Government, that, in the event of the law not being in accordance with the order of the Court of Chancery, it will be necessary to make some provision for the maintenance of about 80 children of both sexes, who, by the laws of Brazil, will then have no legal protectors, and who are incapable of providing for their own necessities, as such provision cannot be expected from the Association if its rights of property in such children is confiscated by the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98.

As you will, doubtless, feel it necessary to communicate by this packet with Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, I trust you will forward to him a copy of my letter of the 12th ultimo, addressed to Mr. Consul Westwood, as well as a copy of this communication.

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

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No. 35.

*Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 6.)*

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, November 8, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to forward to your Lordship copies of two notes which I addressed on the 14th instant to Viscount Maranguape, in connection with the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

## Inclosure 1 in No. 35.

*Mr. Stuart to Viscount de Maranguape.*

M. le Ministre,

*Rio de Janeiro, November 4, 1858.*

YOUR Excellency will no doubt be glad to learn that the slave barque "Minnetonka" was captured by Her Majesty's ship "Heron," on the 18th of April last, being then in latitude 4° 5' south, and longitude 10° 46' east.

The cargo of the "Minnetonka" is stated to have consisted of rice, flour, &c., and her slave-deck was laid, and calculated to carry 900 slaves. She had no colours on board, and it was impossible to discover who her owner was.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 35.

*Mr. Stuart to Viscount de Maranguape.*

M. le Ministre,

*Rio de Janeiro, November 4, 1858.*

HAVING learnt from Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at St. Paul de Loanda that the Brazilian Consul-General in that city has reason to suspect that a project has been set on foot for the introduction of slaves into the northern provinces of Brazil by way of Guiana, I shall feel greatly obliged to your Excellency if you will have the kindness to communicate to me any information which may reach you, as well as the results of any inquiries which the Imperial Government may make with respect to the project in question.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

## No. 36.]

*Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 6, 1859.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, November 29, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant, in which was inclosed a copy of a note of mine to Viscount Maranguape, relating to a suspected project for the introduction of slaves into the northern provinces of Brazil, by Guiana; I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, a translation of the answer which I have received from his Excellency, expressing the disbelief of the Brazilian Government in the possibility of any such project being realized, as well as a copy of a note in which I have thanked his Excellency for the information contained in his answer.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

## Inclosure 1 in No 36.

*Viscount de Maranguape to Mr. Stuart.*

(Translation.)

*Rio de Janeiro, November 22, 1858.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive a note dated the 4th instant, in which Mr. Stuart, alluding to a communication from the Consular Agent of his nation at Loanda, refers to suspicions entertained by the Brazilian Consul residing in the same city, relative to a scheme for the introduction of slaves into the northern provinces of the empire, by way of French Guiana.

In consequence, Mr. Stuart asks me to communicate to him any information that may have reached me, as well as the result of the inquiries that the Imperial Government may make relative to the said scheme.

In reply, I have the honour to state to Mr. W. Stuart, that the said Brazilian Consul, suspecting that some such plans were being discussed in that place, and naturally incited



by his zeal, hastened to bring the matter to the knowledge of the Imperial Government and of the above-mentioned British Agent, even before properly ascertaining whether his fears were well founded.

The Imperial Government consider it impossible to carry on a contraband of Africans in the Provinces of Pará and of the Amazons, and it would be still more impossible by way of French Guiana, since besides the obstacles which it would meet with in the empire, it would have to overcome those that would necessarily be placed in its way by the authorities of that colony.

Considering, however, that any notice of the possibility of such a crime should not be treated with contempt, the Imperial Government have written this day to the recently named President of Pará, repeating orders which had already been verbally given him, to make the most minute inquiries, in order to discover if, by any chance, there may be any truth in it, and if so, to employ the most energetic means to stop it.

Hoping that this reply will be in accordance with the object of the note of Mr. Stuart, I avail, &c.

(Signed) VISCOUNT DE MARANGUAPE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

*Mr. Stuart to Viscount de Maranguape.*

M. le Ministre,

*Rio de Janeiro, November 27, 1858.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive the note which your Excellency addressed to me on the 22nd instant, in reply to my request for information relative to a suspected scheme for the introduction of slaves into the northern provinces of the empire, by way of Guiana.

I beg your Excellency to accept my thanks for the explanations which you have had the kindness to furnish me, with respect to the improbable realization of any such scheme.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

No. 37.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Stuart.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, February 5, 1859.*

I HAVE consulted with the Law Officers of the Crown, upon the subject of your despatches of the 2nd and 6th of November last, reporting your communications with Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro, and with Mr. Schofield, the accredited agent of the British Mining Association called the "Imperial Brazilian Mining Company," upon the question of the legality of the transfer, on the part of the Association to another Company, of the children of slaves belonging to the Association, born subsequently to the Act 6 and 7 Vict., cap. 98; and I have to state to you, that it does not at present appear to be requisite that you should be furnished with any further instruction in this respect.

I have, however, to observe, with reference to the question raised by Mr. Schofield, as to how the maintenance of these children is to be provided for, in the event of their transfer to another Company being decided to be illegal, that Her Majesty's Government cannot be, in any manner, responsible for the maintenance of the children in question, and that Mr. Schofield's suggestion to this effect appears to be as destitute of legal foundation as of reason or propriety.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 38.

*Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 12.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, January 7, 1859.*

THE Treaty of Extradition between this Empire and the Argentine Confederation was concluded in the course of last year, and unfortunately comprises the extradition of fugitive slaves; a stipulation which caused its ratification to be suspended by the Argentine Legislature, when it first came before that body. It was, however, afterwards agreed to, owing to the exercise of General Urquiza's personal influence, and it has since been ratified.

Brazil has similar stipulations in her Treaties with some of her other neighbours, for instance, I believe, with the Republics of Uruguay and Peru, &c.

The present Treaty has not yet been published; as soon as I can procure a copy of it, I shall forward it to your Lordship.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. STUART.

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**BRAZIL.** (*Consular*)—*Bahia.*

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No. 39.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 12.)*

My Lord,

*Bahia, March 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the Trade of this port with the coast of Africa for the quarter ending this day.

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

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Inclosure 1 in No. 39.

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending 31st March, 1858.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days Out.
1	1858 Feb. 8	Portuguese	Brigantine	Paquete Africano ..	116	10	M. dos P. Vianna ..	Unknown	Oil &c. &c. ..	Ajudá ..	31
2	" 19	Sardinian	Polacca	General Garibaldi ..	157	12	S. Maggi ..	Ditto	Ballast ..	Lagos ..	26
3	March 2	Sardinian	Snack	Braziliano ..	85	9	J. Ogilva ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	25
4	" 19	Hamburgh	Schooner	Sylphide ..	140	12	— Meyer ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Onim ..	26
5	" 19	Portuguese	Cutter	Paquete do Porto Novo ..	68	7	João C. Saldanha ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Api ..	25

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

British Consulate, Bahia, 31st March, 1858.

Inclosure 2 in No. 39.

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending the 31st March, 1858.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1858 Jan. 7	French	Polacca	Veritas ..	182	10	— Aube ..	Unknown	Rum and tobacco ..	Coast of Africa.
2	" 18	Portuguese	Brig ..	Bela Figueirense ..	314	14	J. F. M. Sobrinho ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
3	" 27	Ditto ..	Ditto ..	Encantador ..	279	13	Manoel A. Lopes ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
4	" 28	Sardinian	Cutter ..	Emma ..	58	6	Antonio Deleve ..	C. Sechino	Ballast ..	Ditto.
5	" 10	Hamburgh	Schooner ..	Tender ..	101	5	— Lauten ..	Unknown	Rum and tobacco ..	Ditto.
6	Feb. 23	Sardinian	Polacca	Favorita ..	318	12	Stefano Henrille ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
7	" 27	Portuguese	Barque	Esperança ..	451	15	Antonio A. de Souza ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
8	" 28	Hamburgh	Lugger	Emilia ..	240	9	C. A. Meyer ..	Ditto	General ..	Ditto.
9	" 28	Sardinian	Schooner	Emilia ..	179	9	Marco Olivari ..	Ditto	Rum and tobacco ..	Ditto.
10	March 6	Portuguese	Brig ..	Esperança ..	269	11	Joze. A. Carneiro ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
11	" 20	Ditto ..	Brigantine	Paquete Africano ..	166	11	Manoel P. Vianna ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
12	" 29	Ditto ..	Brig ..	Senhor do Bonfim ..	201	11	M. F. F. Guimaraes ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.
13	" 30	Ditto ..	Yacht ..	Aguia ..	144	9	Antonio S. Goncalves ..	Ditto	Ditto ..	Ditto.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

British Consulate, Bahia, 31st March, 1858.

No. 40.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 12.)*

My Lord,

*Bahia, April 7, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 25th February last, approving of my having called the attention of Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro to the fact of the President of this province having farmed out the services of certain emancipated negroes of a private individual, in contravention to the understanding come to by the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs with Her Majesty's Legation in 1853.

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

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No. 41.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

*Bahia, June 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade of this port with the Coast of Africa for the quarter ending this day.

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

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**Inclosure 1 in No. 41.**

LIST of VESSELS which entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1858.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	June 8, 1858	Sardinian	Cutter	Emma	42	6	G. S. Bartholetti	C. Sechino	Ballast	Lagos	60

*British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1858.*

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

**Inclosure 2 in No. 41.**

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1858.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1858 April 10	Spanish	Smack	Decitida	156	10	Jayne Sisa	Unknown	Rum and tobacco	Coast of Africa
2	" 17	Sardinian	Polacca	General Garibaldi	230	12	S. Maggi	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
3	" 25	Portuguese	Cutter	Paquete do Porto Novo	72	5	Antonio N. S. Correia	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto

*British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1858.*

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

No. 42.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

*Bahia, June 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, the accompanying Lists of prices of slaves during the six months ended this day, and in which no alteration has taken place in the value of such slaves.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 42.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times under-mentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending December 31, 1857.				For the half-year ending June 30, 1858.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males ....	1,500\$ to 1,800\$		175 0 0 to 210 0 0		1,500\$ to 1,800\$		175 0 0 to 210 0 0	
„ Females ....	1,200\$	1,500\$	130 0 0	175 0 0	1,200\$	1,500\$	130 0 0	175 0 0
Creole Males ....	1,600\$	1,800\$	186 13 4	210 0 0	1,600\$	1,800\$	186 13 4	210 0 0
„ with profession ....	2,200\$	2,800	246 13 6	316 13 6	2,200\$	2,800\$	246 13 6	316 13 6
„ Females....	1,400\$	1,500\$	163 6 8	175 0 0	1,400\$	1,500\$	163 6 8	175 0 0

*British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1858.*(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

No. 43.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 4.)*

My Lord,

*Bahia, September 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith Lists, Nos. 1 and 2, of the trade of this port with the Coast of Africa for the whole quarter ending this day.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

**Inclosure 1 in No. 43.**

LIST of VESSELS which have entered the Port of Bahia from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1858.

No.	Date of Entry.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whence.	Days out.
1	1858. July 2	Portuguese	Brig	Bella Figueirensæ	244	14	José. F. M. Sobrinho	Unknown	Oil, &c.	Ajudá	37
2	" 2	Portuguese	Brig	Providencia	152	12	Antonio D. Lima	Ditto	Ditto	Ajudá	25
3	" 26	French	Schooner	Lagos	80	12	L. Violeino	Ditto	Ballast	Lagos	27
4	August 13	Portuguese	Brig	Athenas	257	14	L. Idos Santos	Ditto	Oil, &c.	Porto Novo	25

*British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1858.*

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.

**Inclosure 2 in No. 43.**

LIST of VESSELS which have sailed from the Port of Bahia for the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1858.

No.	Date of Sailing.	Nation.	Class.	Name.	Tons.	Crew.	Master.	Owner.	Cargo.	Whither bound.
1	1858. July 13	Sardinian	Schooner	Independence	212	9	G. Bartoletti	Unknown	Run and tobacco	Coast of Africa
2	" 15	Portuguese	Brig	Energico	304	13	Antonio Paos Reis	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
3	" 20	Dutch	Brig	Ivoorkust	269	10	H. M. Vanderveide	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
4	" 25	Portuguese	Schooner	Dhelia	126	10	Antonio P. Lisboa	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
5	August 5	Portuguese	Brigantine	Dous Irmaos	155	11	Antonio P. Costa	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
6	" 27	French	Schooner	Lagos	128	12	L. Violeino	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
7	" 29	Sardinian	Polacca	Henriqueta	239	11	— Chiozza	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.
8	Sept. 1	Portuguese	Yacht	Garrett	262	11	C. G. de Figueredo	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto.

*British Consulate, Bahia, September 30, 1858*

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., Consul.



No. 44.

*Consul Morgan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 12, 1859.)*

My Lord,

Bahia, December 31, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship, the accompanying Lists of prices of slaves during the six months ended this day, and in which no alteration has taken place in the value of such slaves.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

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Inclosure in No. 44.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times under-mentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending June 30, 1858.				For the half-year ending December 31, 1858.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males ....	1,500\$ to 1,800\$		175 0 0 to 210 0 0		1,500\$ to 1,800\$		175 0 0 to 210 0 0	
„ Females ....	1,200\$	100\$,5	130 0 0	175 0 0	1,200\$	1,500\$	130 0 0	175 0 0
Creole Males ....	1,600\$	1,800\$	186 13 4	210 0 0	1,600\$	1,800\$	186 13 4	210 0 0
„ with profession ....	2,200\$	2,800\$	246 13 6	316 13 6	2,200\$	2,800\$	246 13 6	316 13 6
„ Females ...	1,400\$	1,500\$	163 6 8	175 0 0	1,400\$	1,500\$	163 6 8	175 0 0

British Consulate, Bahia, 31st December, 1858.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

## BRAZIL. (Consular)—Para.

No. 45

*Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

Para, February 13, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Return of the prices of slaves within the district of this Consulate, on the 31st December last.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

Inclosure in No. 45.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Para, during the half-year ended the 31st December, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.				Remarks.			
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£		s.	d.	
African males .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	African Slaves are so aged and so few in number that no price can be quoted. There has been no change in the value of Slaves during the last half-year.	
Ditto females .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Creole males .. ..	1,000,000	to 1,100,000	112	10	0	to	125	5		0
Ditto, with professions	1,200,000	2,000,000	133	10	0	225	0	0		0
Females .. ..	800,000	1,000,000	90	0	0	112	10	0		0

*British Consulate, Para, February 13, 1858.*

(Signed)

WATSON VREDENBURG, *Consul.*

No. 46.

*Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

Para, June 30, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a Return of the prices of slaves within the district of this Consulate, during the half-year ending this day.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

## Inclosure in No. 46.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of *Pará*, during the half-year ending the 30th June, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.						Remarks.
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
African males .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	There has been no change in the prices of Slaves during the last half-year.
Ditto females .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Creole males .. ..	1,000\$000	to 1,100\$000	112	10	0	to 125	5	0	
Ditto, with trades ..	1,200\$000	2,000\$000	133	10	0	225	0	0	
Ditto females .. ..	800\$000	1,000\$000	90	0	0	112	10	0	

*British Consulate, Pará, June 30, 1858.*

(Signed)

WATSON VREDENBURG, *Consul.*

## No. 47.

*Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 2.)*

My Lord,

*Pará, October 15, 1858.*

A TRIAL, singular, I believe, in the history of Brazil, took place in this city on Monday last. Donna Maria Magdalena Pio Martinez, a person of position and wealth, and the widow of a Commander of the Imperial Order of Christ, was put on her trial for the murder of one of her female slaves. It was generally reported that the murder had been committed under circumstances of great atrocity; that the unfortunate victim had been kept without any description of nourishment for several days; that she had been repeatedly castigated, and that death had been finally caused by a blow on the temple. It was also currently reported and generally believed, that this woman had previously, by ill-usage, caused the death of one or two children, her slaves; and that her slaves were generally subjected to every description of brutality which the imagination of a violent and ignorant woman could devise. Since her committal for trial, money is believed to have been lavishly distributed, and some parties, it is said, have been unable to withstand its influence. There was, doubtless, some exaggeration in these reports, but I have reason to think that in the main, they were correct.

It was with some interest that I observed the conduct of Senhor Leitão da Cunha, the Vice-President, during the period intervening between the arrest of the prisoner and her trial. That gentleman is Chief of Police, but he is at present, in the absence of the President, administering the affairs of the province. I had formed the highest opinion of his inflexible justice, and determination to punish wrong-doers; but he is a native of the province, and was, I understand, on terms of intimacy with the late husband of the prisoner, and although venality in this country is but too general, I was satisfied that no one would attempt to influence him by pecuniary considerations: nevertheless, as I knew that every description of family and other influences would be brought to bear on him, I feared he might be unable to resist them. I am happy to inform your Lordship, that I was right in my appreciation of Senhor Leitão's character. I am informed that he peremptorily refused to interfere, and declared that the law should take its course.

I thought it my duty to attend the trial, and have much gratification in being able to report most favourably on the conduct of the authorities. Senhor José d'Araujo Danim, the Judge, presided with the greatest impartiality, and Senhor Barata, the Public Prosecutor, performed his duties most courageously and conscientiously. The prisoner was most ably defended by Senhor Paes da Souza, the most distinguished and eloquent advocate of the province; he maintained that the woman, seized with vertigo, or faintness, had met her death by falling against an iron furnace and a heap of bricks that were in the yard.

The jury remained in consultation for about three-quarters of an hour, and acquitted the prisoner, there being six votes in her favour, and the same number against her. The

Public Prosecutor has appealed, and the case will be heard before the Court of Appeal in six weeks, or two months.

The decision in this particular case may be of trifling importance; but the principle has been established that no one, however high in rank, will henceforth be permitted, with impunity, to ill-treat, torture, and murder their slaves; and this prosecution will necessarily tend to protect the slaves against the brutality of some of their owners.

The evidence for the prosecution was not very carefully prepared, and a verdict of "guilty" would certainly not have been obtained in England on the evidence produced at the trial. I may mention that the feeling of horror and disgust was general throughout all classes of the community.

I shall have the honour of reporting to your Lordship the result of the appeal to the Court of Cassation.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

No. 48.

*Consul Vredenburg to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 12.)*

My Lord,

*Pará, December 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit inclosed a Return of the prices of slaves during the half-year ending this day.

I have also the satisfaction to report that there has been no attempt to introduce slaves from Africa during the past year.

I have been informed that a rumour has prevailed in Rio de Janeiro of an alleged project to introduce slaves into this province by way of Guiana; but I cannot ascertain that any grounds exist for the report in question, nor can I conceive that any such attempt can be made with the slightest chance of success.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG.

Inclosure in No. 48.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Pará, during the half-year ending 31st December, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.		Remarks.
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
African males .. ..	..	..	..	..	There has been no change in the prices of Slaves since my last Report.
Ditto females .. ..	..	..	..	..	
Creole males .. ..	1,000\$000 to	1,100\$000	112 10 0 to	125 5 0	
Ditto, with trades ..	1,200\$000	2,000\$000	133 10 0	225 0 0	
Ditto females .. ..	800\$000	1,000\$000	90 0 0	112 10 0	

*British Consulate, Pará, 31st December, 1858.*

(Signed) WATSON VREDENBURG, *Consul.*

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pernambuco.*

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No. 49.

*Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(*Received April 19.*)

My Lord,

*Pernambuco, February 26, 1858.*

IT is with much satisfaction that I am enabled to announce to your Lordship that four more of the Africans stolen from the Serinhaem slaver have been captured by the police and restored to liberty.

They were found in the possession of the Senhor do Eugenio "Caeté," who has been imprisoned; he states that he purchased them from Chico Caçador.

Time, my Lord, is gradually confirming, not only all my statements of facts, but my suspicions, in relation to that affair; you will remember that the Chevalier de Macedo stated, some months past, that only fourteen of those abstracted from the slaver were missing, and that those were free men who had composed its crew. I contested this statement at the time; indeed, I knew it to be erroneous: and the present apprehension demonstrates the truth of my assertion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

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No. 50.

*Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(*Received April 19.*)

My Lord,

*Pernambuco, March 12, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that three more of the Africans stolen at Serinhaem have been delivered up to the police, leaving seven only of the whole to be accounted for.

The Imperial Government may publicly boast of the successful result of its exertions as a proof of its sincerity in discouraging Slave Trade; and if the recovery of the Africans had been accompanied by the punishment of the guilty and the reward of the meritorious, this Serinhaem case, so much to be deplored as it stands, would have been a worthy and successful termination of those sacrifices which the Imperial Government has undoubtedly made to abolish this inhuman Traffic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

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No. 51.

*Consul Cowper to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(*Received April 19.*)

(Extract.)

*Pernambuco, March 20, 1858.*

NOTWITHSTANDING the recent date of my last despatch of this series I am enabled to announce to your Lordship the capture of three more of the Serinhaem negroes; consequently four only remain in slavery.

The honour of having secured to 208 (of 212) of his fellow-creatures their natural rights belongs to that chivalrous but deeply injured gentleman Colonel Drummond; and I do not despair of hearing that his labour has been crowned by the recovery of the whole.

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No. 52.

*Acting Consul Gollan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 12.)*

My Lord,

*Pernambuco, April 5, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that there has been no renewal of African Slave Trade within the limits of this Consulate during the quarter ended the 31st ultimo.

I have also the great satisfaction of informing your Lordship that ten of the Africans stolen from the Serinhaem slaver have been captured during the same period.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ALEX. GOLLAN.

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No. 53.

*Acting Consul Needham to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

*Pernambuco, July 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that there has been no renewal of African Slave Trade within the limits of this Consulate during the whole of the quarter ending the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) P. F. NEEDHAM.

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No. 54.

*Acting Consul Needham to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

*Pernambuco, July 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship Returns of the average prices of slaves within the district of this Consulate, and of the Vice-Consulates of Paraiba and Maceio.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) P. F. NEEDHAM.

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## Inclosure 1 in No. 54.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves in the Province of Pernambuco, during the half-year ended 30th June, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.					
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.			
African males .. ..	1,100\$000	to 1,750\$000	123	15	0	to 196	17	6
Ditto females .. ..	950\$000	1,500\$000	106	17	6	168	15	0
Creole males .. ..	1,100\$000	1,600\$000	123	15	0	180	0	0
Ditto, with trades .. ..	1,500\$000	2,000\$000	168	15	0	225	0	0
Ditto females .. ..	1,050\$000	2,000\$000	118	2	6	225	0	0
Infants from birth to 5 years ..	150\$000	400\$000	16	17	6	45	0	0
Children from 5 to 14 years ..	500\$000	1,700\$000	56	5	0	191	5	0

Average rate of exchange, 27*d.* per milrei.

British Consulate, Pernambuco, June 30, 1858.

(Signed) P. F. NEEDHAM, *Acting Consul.*

## Inclosure 2 in No. 54.

HALF-YEARLY Return of the Price of Slaves with the limits of the City of Maceio and Province of Alagoas.

Description.	Currency.	Sterling.			Remarks.
	Reis.	£	s.	d.	
Domestic Males and Females, brown and yellow .. ..	2,100\$000	227	10	0	Exchange calculated at 26 <i>d.</i> per milrei.
Domestic Males and Females of black colour .. ..	2,000\$000	216	13	1	
Other description of able-bodied Slaves .. ..	1,950\$000	211	5	0	
Children .. ..	1,000\$ to 1,200\$	£108	5 <i>s.</i>	to £130	Under and about 10 years of age.

British Vice-Consulate, Maceio, June 30, 1858.

(Signed) JAMES HUNTER, *Acting Vice-Consul*

Inclosure 3 in No. 54.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Vice-Consulate of Paraíba during the half year ending June 30, 1858.

Description.	During the half-year ending December 31, 1857.				During the half-year ending June 30, 1858.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,600\$ to 1,800\$	1,600\$ to 1,800\$	173 6 8 to 195 0 0	195 0 0
Ditto Females .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1,500\$ 1,800\$	1,500\$ 1,800\$	162 10 0	195 0 0
Creole Males .. .. .	1,600\$ to 1,800\$	1,600\$ to 1,800\$	180 0 0 to 202 10 0	180 0 0 to 202 10 0	1,600\$ 1,800\$	1,600\$ 1,800\$	173 6 8	195 0 0
Ditto Males with trades..	1,800\$ 2,000\$	1,800\$ 2,000\$	202 10 0 225 0 0	202 10 0 225 0 0	1,800\$ 2,000\$	1,800\$ 2,000\$	195 0 0	206 13 4
Ditto Females .. .. .	1,500\$ 1,800\$	1,500\$ 1,800\$	168 15 0 202 10 0	168 15 0 202 10 0	1,500\$ 1,800\$	1,500\$ 1,800\$	162 10 0	195 0 0
Infants under 5 years of age	300\$ 500\$	300\$ 500\$	33 15 0 56 5 0	33 15 0 56 5 0	300\$ 500\$	300\$ 500\$	32 10 0	54 3 4
Children above 5 years of age	500\$ 1,000\$	500\$ 1,000\$	56 5 0 112 10 0	56 5 0 112 10 0	500\$ 1,000\$	500\$ 1,000\$	54 3 4	108 6 8

British Vice-Consulate, Paraíba, June 30, 1858.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL, Vice-Consul.

No. 55.

Acting Consul Needham to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 5.)

Pernambuco, October 5, 1858.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Return of the average prices of slaves within the district of the Consulate during the quarter ending the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

P. F. NEEDHAM.

Inclosure in No. 55.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves in the Province of Pernambuco, during the Quarter ended September 30, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African males .. .. .	1,100\$000	to 1,750\$000	123 15 0 to 196 17 6	196 17 6
Ditto females .. .. .	950\$000	1,500\$000	106 17 6	168 15 0
Creole males .. .. .	1,100\$000	1,600\$000	123 15 0	180 0 0
Ditto, with trades .. .. .	1,500\$000	2,000\$000	168 15 0	225 0 0
Ditto females .. .. .	1,050\$000	2,000\$000	118 2 6	225 0 0
Infants from birth to 5 years..	150\$000	400\$000	16 17 6	45 0 0
Children from 5 to 14 years ..	500\$000	1,700\$000	56 5 0	191 6 0

Average rate of exchange, 27d. per milrei.

British Consulate, Pernambuco, Sept. 30, 1858.

(Signed)

P. F. NEEDHAM, Acting Consul.



No. 56.

*Acting Consul Needham to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 5.)*

My Lord,

Pernambuco, October 5, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that there has been no renewal of the African Slave Trade within the limits of this Consulate during the quarter ending the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) P. F. NEEDHAM.

No. 57.

*Acting Consul Needham to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 5.)*

My Lord,

Pernambuco, February 10, 1859.

IN transmitting to your Lordship the Returns of the average prices of slaves at Pernambuco, Paraiba, and Ceará for the half-year ending the 31st December, 1858, I have great pleasure in informing your Lordship that, during the whole of the past year, there has been no renewal of the African Slave Trade within the limits of this Consulate and the adjacent Vice-Consulates.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) P. F. NEEDHAM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 57.

RETURN of the Price of Slaves in the Province of Pernambuco, during the Quarter ended September 31, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.					
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.			
African males .. ..	1,100\$000	to 1,750\$000	123	15	0	to 196	17	6
Ditto females .. ..	950\$000	1,500\$000	106	17	6	168	15	0
Creole males .. ..	1,100\$000	1,600\$000	123	15	0	180	0	0
Ditto, with trades .. ..	1,500\$000	2,000\$000	168	15	0	225	0	0
Ditto females .. ..	1,050\$000	2,000\$000	118	2	6	225	0	0
Infants from birth to 5 years..	150\$000	400\$000	16	17	6	45	0	0
Children from 5 to 14 years ..	500\$000	1,700\$000	56	5	0	191	5	0

Average rate of exchange, 27d. per milrea.

British Consulate, Pernambuco, December 31, 1858.

(Signed) P. F. NEEDHAM, *Acting Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 57.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Vice-Consulate of Paraiba, during the half year ending December 31, 1858.

Description.	During the half-year ending June 30, 1858.				During the half-year ending December 31, 1858.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males .. ..	1,600\$ to 1,800\$		173 6 8	195 0 0	1,600\$ to 1,800\$		176 13 4	198 15 0
Ditto Females .. ..	1,500\$	1,800\$	162 10 0	195 0 0	1,500\$	1,800\$	165 12 6	198 15 0
Creole Males .. ..	1,600\$	1,800\$	173 6 8	195 0 0	1,600\$	1,800\$	176 13 4	198 15 0
Ditto Males with trades ..	1,800\$	2,000\$	195 0 0	206 13 4	1,800\$	2,000\$	198 15 0	220 16 8
Ditto Females .. ..	1,500\$	1,800\$	162 10 0	195 0 0	1,500\$	1,800\$	165 12 6	198 15 0
Infants under five years of age ..	300\$	500\$	32 10 0	54 3 4	300\$	500\$	33 2 6	55 2 4
Children above five years of age ..	500\$	1,000\$	54 3 4	108 6 8	500\$	1,000\$	55 4 2	110 8 4

British Vice-Consulate, Paraiba, December 31, 1858.

(Signed)

JAMES WETHERELL, Vice-Consul.

Inclosure 3 in No. 57.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Vice-Consulate of Ceará, during the year ending December 31, 1858.

Description.	Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males .. ..	1,300\$000	to 1,500\$000	140 16 8	to 162 10 0
Ditto Females .. ..	1,200\$000	1,400\$000	130 0 0	151 13 4
Creole Males .. ..	1,400\$000	1,600\$000	151 13 4	173 6 8
Ditto Males with trades ..	1,400\$000	1,800\$000	151 13 4	195 0 0
Ditto Females .. ..	1,300\$000	1,600\$000	140 16 8	173 6 8
Infants under 5 years ..	200\$000	1,000\$000	21 13 4	108 6 8
Infants from 5 to 12 years ..	1,000\$000	1,400\$000	108 6 8	151 13 4

British Vice-Consulate, Ceará, December 31, 1858.

(Signed)

J. W. STUDART, Vice-Consul.

**BRAZIL. (Consular)—Rio Grande do Sul.**

No. 58.

*Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 3.)*

My Lord,

*Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Return, showing the average prices of slaves in this province during the six-monthly period ended this day.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 58.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the Six Months ending 30th June, 1858, compared with the Prices in the preceding Half-Year.

Classes of Slaves.	Average Prices in Six-Monthly Periods to				Difference in Price in last Six Months.	
	December 31, 1857.		June 30, 1858.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
<i>Agricultural.</i>	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Males .. ..	1,000\$000	108 6 8	1,040\$000	104 0 0	..	4 6 8
Females .. ..	950\$000	102 18 4	960\$000	96 0 0	..	6 18 4
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males .. ..	1,300\$000	140 16 8	1,300\$000	130 0 0	..	10 16 8
Females .. ..	1,100\$000	119 3 4	1,100\$000	110 0 0	..	9 3 4
<i>Mining</i> .. ..	None.					
<i>Newly Imported</i> ..	None.					

Exchange to December 31, 1857, 26*d.* per milrei; and to June 30, 1858, 24*d.* per milrei.

*British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, June 30, 1858.*

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*

No. 59.

Consul Vereker to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 5, 1859.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Return, showing the average prices of slaves in this province during the six-monthly period ended this day.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

Inclosure in No. 59.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, during the Six Months ending 31st December, 1858, compared with the Prices in the preceding Half-Year.

Classes of Slaves.	Average Prices in Six-Monthly Periods to				Difference in Price in last Six Months.	
	June 30, 1858.		December 31, 1858.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
<i>Agricultural.</i>	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Males .. ..	1,040\$000	104 0 0	1,250\$000	135 8 4	31 8 4	
Females .. ..	960\$000	96 0 0	1,100\$000	119 3 4	23 3 4	
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males .. ..	1,300\$000	130 0 0	1,400\$000	151 13 4	21 13 4	
Females .. ..	1,100\$000	110 0 0	1,250\$000	135 8 4	25 8 4	
<i>Mining</i> .. ..	None.					
<i>Newly Imported</i> ..	None.					

British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1858.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER, Consul.

BRAZIL. (*Consular.*)—*Rio de Janeiro.*

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No. 60.

*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, March 12, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo,\* having reference to mine of the 14th of December last, reporting certain proceedings connected with the slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association.

I shall not fail to comply with your Lordship's instructions to continue to watch and report the proceedings of British Companies, or British subjects, in their dealings with slaves.

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

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No. 61.

*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 14.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, April 20, 1858.*

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 quarter ending on the 31st ultimo, and to state that there were no departures from Africa during the same period.

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

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\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 147.

**Inclosure in No. 61.**

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa, during the Quarter ending March 31, 1858.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where from.	Passage.	Reported Nature of Cargo.
1858. 19 February	Ship .. ..	Lusitania .. ..	J. A. de O. Braga ..	Portuguese .. ..	400	21	Angola .. ..	Days. 23	Ballast.
March 29	Brig .. ..	Palanque .. ..	Alex. J. Correa ..	Ditto .. ..	142	13	Loanda .. ..	28	Sundries.

Rio de Janeiro, March 31, 1858.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 62.

*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 14.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, May 10, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch to Lord Clarendon of the 14th December last, and to his Lordship's reply dated the 8th of February,\* I have now the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, copy of a further report which I have made to Her Majesty's Minister at this Court relative to the proceedings connected with the slaves belonging to the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association.

I likewise inclose a copy of Mr. Scarlett's despatch to me, approving the letter which I addressed to the agents of the Association, with reference to the disposal of the negroes.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 62.

*Consul Westwood to Mr. Scarlett, April 30, 1858.*

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 30.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 62.

*Consul Westwood to Messrs. Mackay, Miller and Co., April 30, 1858.*

[See Inclosure 2 in No. 30.]

Inclosure 3 in No. 62.

*Mr. Scarlett to Consul Westwood, May 2, 1858.*

[See Inclosure 3 in No. 30.]

No. 63.

*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

*Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a Return showing the price of slaves in this province during the six months ending this day.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

\* Class B, presented 1858, Nos. 146 and 147.

Inclosure in No. 63.

RETURN showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, during the Half-Year ending June 30, 1858, 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.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
<i>Agricultural.</i>								
Males .. ..	1,200\$000	to 2,000\$000	135 0 0	to 225 0 0	137 0 10	to	206 5 0	
Females .. ..	1,000\$000	1,500\$000	112 10 0	168 15 0	91 13 4		160 8 4	
<i>Mining.</i>								
Males .. ..	} About the same as Agricultural.							
Females .. ..								
<i>Domestic.</i>								
Males .. ..	1,200\$000	to 2,000\$000	135 0 0	to 225 0 0	114 11 8	to	229 3 4	
Females .. ..	1,000\$000	1,800\$000	112 10 0	202 10 0	114 11 8		183 6 8	
<i>Newly Imported..</i>								
Males .. ..	} None landed within the district of this Consulate during the last six months.							
Females .. ..								

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1858.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, *Consul.*

No. 64.

*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, July 2, 1858.

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 quarter ending on the 30th ultimo; and also a List of the sailings for Africa during the same period.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JNO. C. J. WESTWOOD.



## Inclosure 1 in No. 64.

ARRIVALS at Rio de Janeiro from the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1858.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation	Tonnage.	Crew	Where from.	Passage.	Reported Nature of Cargo.
1858. June 25	Schooner Brig	Caçador	M. F. Ferro	Portuguese	92	13	Loanda	Days. 40	Sundries.

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1858.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 64.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending June 30, 1858.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where bound.	Reported Nature of Cargo.
1858. April 9	Brig	Confiança	J. da Silva	Portuguese	264	12	Loanda	Sundries.
June 2	Brigantine	Paquete de Loanda	J. de S. Velho	Ditto	132	13	Benguella	Ditto.

Rio de Janeiro, June 30, 1858.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

No. 65.

*Consul Westwood to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 4.)*

My Lord.

*Rio de Janeiro, October 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a Return of the vessels that are reported to have sailed from this port for the Coast of Africa during the quarter ending on the 30th ultimo; and to report to your Lordship that there were no arrivals from Africa during the same period.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD.

## Inclosure in No. 65.

DEPARTURES from Rio de Janeiro for the Coast of Africa during the Quarter ending September 30, 1858.

Date.	Description.	Name.	Master.	Nation.	Tonnage.	Crew.	Where Bound.	Reported Nature of Cargo.
1858. July	Brig	Palanque	A. S. Correa	Portuguese	200	14	Loanda	Sundries.
Sept.	Ditto	Ligeiro	A. P. Vasco	Ditto	366	14	Goa, via Coast of Africa	Ballast.

Rio de Janeiro, September 30, 1858.

(Signed) JNO. J. C. WESTWOOD, Consul.

DENMARK (*Consular*)—*St. Thomas.*

No. 66.

*Consul Lamb to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 4.)*

My Lord,

*St. Thomas, February 10, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have this day received a communication from the east part of the neighbouring Spanish Island of Porto Rico, informing me that, a few days ago, a barque, 350 tons, called the "*Majestad*," with an American and Spanish captain, thirty-four days from the Coast of Africa, with about 800 slaves (200 having been lost on the passage), was run on shore at Humacoa, a port on the east of the island, and the slaves taken possession of by the Spanish Government. I have every reason to believe that this information is correct, as also the report that a smaller cargo of slaves had been landed some time ago in safety, on the south coast of the island, and that both expeditions are for account of parties in the island of Porto Rico.

I doubt not your Lordship will receive details on this subject from Her Majesty's Consul at Porto Rico, but consider it my duty to report to your Lordship what has come to my knowledge. I have also reported same to the Naval Commander-in-chief on the station.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) R. B. LAMB.

## FRANCE.

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No. 67.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 1 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, under flying seal, for your Excellency's information, a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Bell, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Algiers,\* directing him to furnish me with any observations which he may have to offer upon a report from Colonel Herman, respecting the introduction of slaves into the Algerine territory

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 68.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 9, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th ultimo,† I inclose, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copies of two despatches and of their inclosures, one from Lord Napier, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, the other from Mr. Mure, Her Majesty's Consul at New Orleans,‡ containing some observations respecting the scheme for the introduction of 2,500 negro apprentices into Louisiana, which has recently passed the House of Representatives of that State.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 69.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 14, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Martinique,§ on the subject of the French scheme for importing African labourers into that island.

I have only to observe to your Excellency that, although the precautions taken by the French authorities in order to ensure the proper treatment and welfare of the Africans introduced into their colonies under the Régis contract, are carefully devised and well-adapted to prevent abuse, yet the report of Mr. Lawless tends to show that it is, in effect, only another form of carrying on the Slave Trade, and that it affords direct encourage-

\* No. 111.

† Ibid., Nos. 618 and 628.

‡ Class B, presented 1858, No. 192.

§ No. 113.

ment to the native slave-dealers to make war on their neighbours for the purpose of procuring slaves to supply the French demands.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 70.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 15.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, April 14, 1858.*

A DEPUTATION of the Society of Friends has been sent to Paris for the purpose of presenting a Memorial to the Emperor against the French system for obtaining free negro labour from the Coast of Africa. Count Walewski informs me that he received the gentlemen composing the Deputation a few days ago, and that he had promised to lay their Memorial before the Emperor. He profited by the opportunity, he added, to assure them that nothing could be further from the intention of the French Government than to countenance the Slave Trade under any form, and he entered into some details with them to show that, in the opinion of the Imperial Government, there was no foundation for the apprehensions entertained in England, that the procuring of free labour was an indirect encouragement of the Trade.

I took this occasion to renew the arguments which I have so often and so unsuccessfully employed before, to induce Count Walewski to reconsider the decision on which the French Government was acting; and I called his attention to the serious effects which the knowledge of the proceedings of the French Government was producing in the United States. I regret to say that I can perceive no signs of any change of opinion. His Excellency says, that he is fortified in his judgment by the approval with which it is met on the part of the Dutch and Danish Governments, which have both placed on record the opinion that the Slave Trade can only be exterminated by a successful system of free emigration. It is in vain that I reply that prisoners taken in war made for the purpose, who enrol themselves as French colonists under the fear of death or of perpetual slavery, are not free-emigrants. As his Excellency, however, declares that, if it can be proved to him that war is made for the purpose of supplying colonists for the French demands, the French Government would desist from their plan, it may be matter for consideration with Her Majesty's Government, whether a proposal might not be made to send a Mixed Commission to study the question on the spot.

## No. 71.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 9th instant, I transmit, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copy of a further despatch from Mr. Mure, Her Majesty's Consul at New Orleans,\* reporting that the Bill for the introduction of 2,500 negro apprentices, which was passed by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, has been rejected by the Senate of that State.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 72.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 17, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a Memorandum which I have received from Mr. McLeod, Her Majesty's Consul at Mozambique,† containing a Report upon the French scheme for procuring negro labourers for their

\* No. 372.

† No. 164.

Colonies, as carried out on the East Coast of Africa; and I have to instruct your Excellency to call the attention of Count Walewski to that part of Mr. McLeod's Report in which he describes the cruelties practised by the Arab slave-dealers towards the slaves whom they bring from the African Continent to the Island of Madagascar, from whence they are shipped as free labourers on board French vessels to Réunion.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 73.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 30, 1858.*

HER Majesty's Government have had under their consideration your Excellency's despatches of the 23rd ultimo and 14th instant, reporting what passed at conversations which you had on two occasions with Count Walewski on the subject of the French scheme for procuring negroes on the African coast to be exported as free labourers to the French colonies.

On both occasions it appears that the French Minister, while differing entirely from the conclusions arrived at by Her Majesty's Government, viz., that the system now pursued by the French in procuring African labourers is a direct encouragement of the Slave Trade, expressed the readiness of the Imperial Government to desist from their present plan if it could be proved that war is made by the natives on one another, for the purpose of procuring the negroes who are supplied to the French agents as colonists.

Her Majesty's Government had hoped that the reports of the British authorities, and the information which has from time to time been communicated to your Excellency, would have been sufficient to have convinced the Imperial Government that it is impossible to procure from the African coast any considerable number of *bonâ fide* free labourers; and that the system now pursued by French agents, of purchasing slaves from the native Chiefs and traders, and then exporting them as free emigrants, tended not only directly to encourage the Slave Trade, but also to foster wars between the native tribes for the purpose of supplying the demands of the French agents for slaves; and if any further testimony were required on this subject, it is contained in the recent Message of the President of Liberia to the Legislature of that Republic, extracts of which are contained in a letter from Rear-Admiral Sir F. Grey to the Secretary to the Admiralty, of which I inclose to your Excellency a copy.\*

I also inclose extracts of despatches bearing upon this subject, which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos,† and I have to instruct your Excellency, in communicating the substance of these papers to the French Government, to state to Count Walewski, that, in order to obtain the most satisfactory information in reference to this matter, Her Majesty's Government would suggest that a Commission should be appointed, conjointly by Her Majesty's Government and the Government of His Imperial Majesty, to inquire on the spot, whether the system now pursued by French Agents on the African coast has tended to encourage wars between the native tribes, for the purpose of obtaining prisoners to supply the French emigrant-ships.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 74.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 5.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, May 4, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the copy of a note which I have addressed to Count Walewski on the subject of the system pursued by French agents for exporting negroes from Africa as free emigrants.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

\* Class A, No. 117.

Inclosure in No. 74.

*Earl Cowley to Count Walewski.*

M. le Ministre,

Paris, May 3, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to recall to your Excellency's recollection that, in the course of two late conversations between us on the subject of the scheme for procuring negroes on the African coast to be exported to the French colonies, I was assured that the Imperial Government were ready to desist from the further prosecution of that scheme, if it could be proved that war is made by the natives on one another for the purpose of procuring negroes who are supplied to the French agents as colonists.

Her Majesty's Government had hoped that the reports of the British authorities, and the information which I have had from time to time the honour to communicate to your Excellency in connection with this topic, would have been sufficient to have convinced the Imperial Government that it is impossible to procure from the African coast any considerable number of *bonâ fide* free labourers, and that the system now pursued by the French agents for purchasing slaves from the native Chiefs and traders, and then exporting them as free emigrants, tended not only directly to encourage the Slave Trade, but also to foster wars between the native tribes for the purpose of supplying the demands of the French agents.

Further testimony, which appears to Her Majesty's Government of a most conclusive character as to the evil effects of the system at present carried on, is to be found in a recent Message of the President of Liberia to the Legislature of that Republic, extracts of which, as contained in a letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Grey to the Secretary of the Admiralty, are herewith inclosed to your Excellency, together with copies of three despatches lately received from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, and bearing upon the subject.\*

In communicating these papers to the French Government I am instructed by Earl of Malmesbury to state to your Excellency that, in order to obtain the most satisfactory information in reference to this matter, Her Majesty's Government would suggest that a Commission should be appointed, conjointly by Her Majesty's Government and that of His Imperial Majesty, to inquire on the spot whether the system now pursued by the French agents on the African coast has tended to encourage wars between the native tribes for the purpose of obtaining prisoners to supply the French emigrant-ships.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 75.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 12.)*

(Extract.)

Paris, May 10, 1858.

IN my despatch of the 4th instant I had the honour to inclose to your Lordship copy of a note which I had addressed to Count Walewski, after the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, proposing to the French Government the nomination of a Mixed Commission to inquire, on the spot, whether the system now pursued by French agents on the African coast has tended to encourage war between the native tribes for the purpose of obtaining prisoners to supply the French emigrant-ships.

I have now the honour to inclose a copy of Count Walewski's reply, from which your Lordship will see that his Excellency is disposed to recommend to the Emperor to institute a general inquiry as to whether the operations carried on by the French Government on the Coast of Africa offer any encouragement to the Slave Trade.

With regard to Count Walewski's remark, that the Government of the Netherlands, far from looking upon the French operations as of a nature to propagate the

\* Nos. 2 and 3; and Class A, No. 117.



Trade, consider them as the only likely means to put an end to that shameful Traffic, I would suggest that inquiry should be made at the Hague whether the nature of the French operations is fully known there; and whether the declaration of the Netherlands' Government has not simply been the general one, that the only means of putting an end to the Slave Trade is to induce the negroes to emigrate voluntarily.

Inclosure in No. 75.

*Count Walewski to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Paris, le 8 Mai, 1858.*

J'AI reçu, avec ses annexes, la lettre que votre Excellence m'a fait l'honneur de m'adresser sous la date du 3 de ce mois, au sujet du recrutement de travailleurs auquel le Gouvernement de l'Empereur fait procéder en ce moment à la côte d'Afrique.

J'aurai soin de prendre les ordres de l'Empereur sur la proposition que vous avez été chargé de me communiquer; mais je crois devoir vous faire remarquer, dès à présent, que, dans nos entretiens à cet égard, j'ai seulement exprimé l'avis que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté pourrait consentir à rechercher si nos opérations sont un encouragement offert à la Traite des Noirs, et que je n'ai pas entendu qu'il pourrait y avoir lieu exclusivement d'examiner si elles ont pour effet de provoquer des guerres entre les tribus indigènes dans le but de faire des prisonniers pour les céder aux recruteurs Français. Ce sera donc dans ces termes que j'aurai l'honneur de présenter à Sa Majesté Impériale les ouvertures qui font l'objet de la lettre de votre Excellence. Je rappellerai également qu'à l'appui de la manière du Gouvernement de l'Empereur d'apprécier le caractère des engagements que nous recherchons à la côte d'Afrique, j'ai invoqué l'avis du Gouvernement des Pays Bas, qui, loin d'envisager nos opérations comme de nature à propager la Traite, les considère comme l'unique moyen propre à mettre fin à ce haïssable Trafic.

No. 76.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, May 15, 1858.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 10th instant, inclosing a copy of the answer returned by Count Walewski to the note which you addressed to his Excellency on the 3rd instant, proposing the nomination of a Mixed Commission to inquire, on the spot, whether the system now pursued by French agents on the African coast has tended to encourage wars between the native tribes for the purpose of obtaining prisoners to supply the French emigrant-ships.

The statements contained in the French Minister's note, with regard to the favourable manner in which the Government of the Netherlands views the French scheme for procuring labourers on the African coast, render it more than ever necessary that the questions connected with this French Emigration Scheme should be referred to a Mixed Commission.

No. 77.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, May 18, 1858.*

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information an extract of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos,\* reporting that the attempt of M. Régis to purchase slaves at Whydah has not been renewed.

\* No. 5.

## No. 78.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 5, 1858.*

I HAVE to state to your Excellency, with reference to my despatch of the 15th ultimo, that I should be glad to learn, as early as may be possible, the decision of the French Government with regard to the proposal which your Excellency was instructed to make for the establishment of a Joint Commission to inquire whether the proceedings of the French Emigration Agents on the African coast have the effect of encouraging the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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## No. 79.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 24.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, June 22, 1858.*

I COMMUNICATED yesterday to Count Walewski, as instructed by your Lordship's despatch of the 12th instant, the papers therein inclosed relating to the seizure of the French ship "Regina Coeli," and the murder of her crew by the negroes who had been shipped on board that vessel as free emigrants, and to the recapture of that ship by the contract packet "Ethiopian."

Count Walewski said, that the papers which he had received gave a very different account of the transaction from those which I showed him. He had sent the whole of them, he added, to the Duke of Malakoff, for communication to your Lordship.

Count Walewski stated particularly that the French naval officers, who had eventually taken possession of the "Regina Coeli," denied the fact that manacles of any description had been found on board, or that there was any appearance on the wrists of the negroes of their having been handcuffed.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

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## No. 80.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 26, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Tripoli,\* inclosing a translation of a petition presented by the merchants of Fezzan and Ghadames to the Pasha of Tripoli, and also a copy of a letter from the British Vice-Consul at Bengazi, on the subject of the introduction of slaves into the Algerine territory.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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\* No. 272.

## No. 81.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received June 29.)

My Lord,

Paris, June 28, 1858.

I HAVE read to Count Walewski your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd instant, respecting the conduct of Mr. Croft, Captain of the African packet "Ethiope," and his Excellency expressed himself satisfied with the assurances therein given, of the sentiments and intentions of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

## No. 82.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 16, 1858.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copies of a letter and its inclosures, from Commodore Wise, to the Secretary to the Admiralty,\* which have been communicated to me by that Department, reporting the circumstances under which a native boat under French colours was boarded by a boat from Her Majesty's steamer "Vesuvius."

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 83.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July-20, 1858.

TO your Excellency, so long and so thoroughly versed, both by study and personal experience, in the events of our modern history, it is needless to recapitulate the obstinate and irritating disputes that have been carried on between this country and other maritime States on the right of search or visit.

These have repeatedly brought us to the verge of war, and even when our claims were silently dropped, or as silently admitted, and hostilities thereby avoided, the past discussion did not fail to inflict on the national pride of our allies a rankling wound of the most painful character.

It suffices at present that your Excellency should be aware that recent events in the West Indies have formed the subject of remonstrance on the part of the Government of the United States, in regard to the question of the right of ships of war to verify the nationality of merchant-vessels. Communications have in consequence taken place between the two Governments, which I trust may lead to the adoption by all maritime nations of the world, of some measure calculated to put an end to those international disputes, which, for above half-a-century, have been so frequent and so dangerous to all maritime States, and to place this long-vevexed question upon a sound and satisfactory footing.

Before proceeding further, however, Her Majesty's Government desire to be informed whether the French Government are disposed, as one of the Powers deeply interested in this question, to consider with Her Majesty's Government the basis on which it can for the future be placed. If so, your Excellency will bring to the knowledge of Count Walewski the principles of international law which Her Majesty's Government recognize, which they admitted to the American Government on the occasion above referred to, and which I will now recapitulate.

Her Majesty's Government acknowledge the undoubted right of every vessel navigating lawfully under any flag to be exempt from the visit of a ship of war of another country; and they concur in the view stated by General Cass, in a note addressed by him to Lord Napier, on the 10th of April last, and laid before Congress, that "a merchant-

\* Class A, No. 123.

vessel upon the high seas is protected by her national character. He who forcibly enters her, does so upon his own responsibility. Undoubtedly, if a vessel assume a national character to which she is not entitled, and is sailing under false colours, she cannot be protected by this assumption of a nationality to which she has no claim. As the identity of a person must be determined by the officer bearing a process for his arrest, and determined at the risk of such officer, so must the national identity of a vessel be determined at like hazard to him who, doubting the flag she displays, searches her to ascertain her true character. There, no doubt, may be circumstances which would go far to modify the complaints a nation would have a right to make for such a violation of its sovereignty. If the boarding officer had just grounds for suspicion, and departed himself with propriety in the performance of his task, doing no injury, and peaceably retiring when satisfied of his error, no nation would make such an act the subject of serious reclamation."

Her Majesty's Government, however, think it indispensable to civilisation and to the police of the high seas, that there should exist, practically, a recognized, but limited, power, of verifying the nationality of vessels suspected, on good grounds, of carrying false colours; and that some mutual regulations should be adopted, by which the officers of ships of war of all States should be enabled to verify the nationality of a suspicious ship.

The Government of the United States have intimated that, entering fully into the importance of this object, they are willing to give their consideration to any proposal with this view which Her Majesty's Government might suggest. The same subject has already, to a certain extent, received the consideration of the Imperial Government, in its communications with that of Her Majesty.

In the despatch from Count Walewski to Baron de Malaret, of which a copy was transmitted to your Excellency in my despatch of the 28th of May last, the right of ships of war to verify the nationality of any merchant-vessel met with at sea, is acknowledged by the French Government.

In time of peace, however, the Imperial Government would seem to contend that this right should be limited to compelling a vessel to hoist her flag; but it is admitted that in certain cases ships of war have a right to verify the flag, on the understanding always that they are not to impede the vessel's voyage. The French Minister of Marine, as stated by Count Walewski, gives it as his opinion that, for a British officer to believe himself authorized to go on board a vessel that has hoisted the French colours, the proceedings of such vessel must be very suspicious; and he adds, that such an act can scarcely become necessary, except in the case of suspicion or fraud, the indications of which are so numerous and well-founded as, apart from the question of colours, to reveal to the eyes of a sailor the true nationality of such vessel.

It thus appears that there is, to a considerable extent, an identity of views on this important subject between Great Britain, France, and the United States; and Her Majesty's Government, believing that the present is an advantageous moment for settling once and for all so great a question, and establishing the regulations by which the police of the seas shall be maintained, and the freedom of every flag secured from unnecessary interruption, is anxious to come to an understanding with the Imperial Government as to the agreement to be made in the first instance between themselves for establishing an identical code of orders in the French and British navies, which, when so established, may be subsequently submitted for adoption by the United States and by the whole civilised world.

The first question to be considered is, how far a ship of war, which is assumed to have a right to make a merchant-vessel show her colours, and so declare her nationality, has a power to enforce that right; and, secondly, when a merchant-ship displays her colours, how is a ship of war to verify the nationality claimed, should her honesty be suspected?

Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Government of His Imperial Majesty will consider this a question of such importance to the security of commerce, to the honour of national flags now prostituted by piracy, and to the cause of general peace, as to merit their early and serious consideration; and your Excellency will lose no time in ascertaining the views entertained thereon by the French Government.

Your Excellency will read this despatch to Count Walewski, and leave him a copy.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 84.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, July 20, 1858.*

WITH reference to my previous despatch of this day's date, I transmit to your Excellency herewith, for your information, copies of my correspondence with Lord Napier, as noted in the margin,\* upon the question of the right of visit.

No. 85.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 25.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, July 24, 1858.*

I LOST no time in communicating to Count Walewski your Lordship's very important despatch of the 20th instant, inviting the French Government to aid Her Majesty's Government in concerting regulations for the settlement of that long-vexed maritime question known by the name of the "right of search."

I placed a copy of this despatch in Count Walewski's hands, and I remarked upon the honour which must redound to any statesman who succeeded in settling one of the most difficult political problems of modern times.

Count Walewski said that he had already heard on this subject from the United States, and that he would give his attentive consideration to your Lordship's despatch. He thought that an arrangement between the two Governments was possible, but before saying anything officially upon the subject he must consult the Minister of Marine.

The difficulty, his Excellency observed, laid in the second question propounded in your Lordship's despatch, for he believed that the principle raised in the first was universally acknowledged, viz., that a ship of war might compel a merchant-ship to show her colours. With regard to the second question, his Excellency was not disposed to deny that, under suspicious circumstances, an officer commanding a man-of-war might board a ship, and demand her papers, but the responsibility of the act must rest with the officer, and a ship detained unlawfully by the proceeding might claim damages. This was a principle which the French Government would certainly assert.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 36.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 26, 1858.*

I HAVE received your Excellency's despatch of the 24th instant, reporting the observations made to you by Count Walewski on your communicating to his Excellency my despatch of the 20th instant, upon the question of the right of visit.

Your Excellency will impress upon Count Walewski that the great object to be attained in this matter, is that the orders for ships of war, as proposed to be established by a Code of Instructions, should be identical in the British and French, and in foreign navies, and that thus the honour of all nations should be preserved.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 87.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 29, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,\* containing a report upon the state of the Slave Trade in the neighbourhood of the Portuguese possessions on the West Coast of Africa; and I have to call your Excellency's attention to the paragraphs 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 of Mr. Gabriel's despatch, which relate to the proceedings of French agents on the African coast, and show the evil effects of the system pursued by the French of purchasing slaves, with the view to their exportation as free labourers.

Your Excellency will make use of the information contained in this report in any communications which you may have with the French Government on the subject of the French scheme for procuring labourers from Africa.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 88.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, August 25, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of June last, I inclose, for your Excellency's information, the accompanying copies of a despatch, and its inclosure, from Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Tripoli,† relative to the introduction of slaves into the Algerine territory.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 89.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 7.)*

My Lord,

*Paris, September 6, 1858.*

IN answer to an inquiry which I put to him this morning, M. Benedetti informed me that papers were sent to the Duc de Malakoff two days ago, which will enable that Ambassador to make a proposal to Her Majesty's Government for the settlement of the vexed question of the right of visit.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 90.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, October 2, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Plowden, Her Majesty's Consul in Abyssinia,‡ reporting the measures adopted by the King of Abyssinia for the purpose of checking the export of slaves from his dominions; and I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate to the French Government the information contained in Mr. Plowden's despatch.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

\* Class A, Nos. 67.

† No. 274.

‡ No. 295.

No. 91.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 4.)*

(Extract.)

*Paris, October 3, 1858.*

WHEN I first conversed with Count Walewski on this subject, his Excellency, as your Lordship is aware, treated it on the point of the legality of the capture of the vessel in question; he maintaining that the seizure had been effected out of Portuguese waters, for an infraction of the commercial laws of Portugal, and, therefore, that the Portuguese tribunals were incompetent to confirm the seizure. It seems now that, at a Council of Ministers held yesterday morning, and presided over by the Emperor, the fact that the vessel had been condemned as a slaver was first broached, and it was decided that the condemnation as a slaver of a French ship, having a Government delegate on board, authorized to hire African labourers, was tantamount to connecting the Imperial Government with the Traffic in Slaves, and was derogatory to the honour of France. It was resolved, that the release of the "Charles et Georges," and of her captain, should be peremptorily demanded and insisted upon.

Your Lordship will not, I feel certain, suppose that I have any wish to palliate or defend the proceedings of the French Government in procuring African labour, if I venture to say that, determined as is the French Government to maintain that those proceedings do not involve a breach of their solemn declaration against the Slave Trade, they should feel deeply humiliated by a judgment which virtually makes them participators in that infamous traffic. I cannot, therefore, hope that the decision taken at the Council yesterday will be revoked. I have asked Count Walewski whether he would be willing to refer the affair to the arbitration of a friendly Power. He has not, as yet, given me an answer, but I have little expectation that my suggestion will be attended to.

Count Walewski is gone into the country for two or three days, but I hope to see his Excellency again on Tuesday. In the meantime he has informed me that the instructions to the French Minister at Lisbon will not be sent for a day or two.

I should add, that Count Walewski stated to me yesterday that the report of the "Comité des Contentieux," to whom I apprised your Lordship the whole question had been referred, would be adverse to the pretensions of Portugal on every point. Nevertheless, his Excellency said, this might have been matter of discussion with the Portuguese Government had the "Charles et Georges" not been condemned as a slaver.

No. 92.

*Earl Cowley to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Paris, October 5, 1858, 1 A.M.*

I REGRET to have to acquaint your Lordship that the French Government decline to submit to arbitration their differences with Portugal in the case of the "Charles et Georges."

No. 94.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, October 23, 1858.*

I INCLOSE for your Excellency's information copies of a despatch, and its inclosures, from the Governor of the Windward Islands, which has been communicated to me by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, reporting the arrival at St. Lucia of the French war-steamer "Acheron," in pursuit of eight Africans who had effected their escape from Martinique, whither they had been conveyed as free emigrants.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

## Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

*Governor Hincks to Sir E. B. Lytton.*

Sir, *Windward Islands, Barbadoes, August 31, 1858.*  
 I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the copy of a despatch from Mr. Breen, reporting the arrival of the French war-steamer "Acheron" at the port of Castries, in pursuit of -escaped Africans. I may observe that in calling for and transmitting these reports my object is simply to keep you fully informed, on the most reliable authority, of the results of the French emigration system.

It is to be presumed from Mr. Breen's report, that the twenty-three unfortunate Kroomen who were pursued by the French steamer "Lucifer" were all drowned, and those who are the subject of the present despatch have probably met a similar fate.

I have, &c.  
 (Signed) F. HINCKS.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

*Mr. Breen to Governor Hincks.*

Sir, *St. Lucia, August 23, 1858.*  
 I HAVE the honour to report, for your Excellency's information, that at 5 o'clock this morning, the French war-steamer "Acheron" came to anchor at the entrance to the port of Castries. At 8 o'clock one of the officers presented himself at my residence and informed me that he had been sent by the commander to pay his respects.

2. The officer then stated that in the night of Saturday the 21st August, eight Africans had effected their escape from Martinique, and that on the following morning the "Acheron" was sent in pursuit of them, but that they had not discovered any trace of them. I inquired if the Africans were "Kroomen," and he said he did not know; that they were "des engagés," that is, under contract of service as labourers.

3. On inquiring whether any information had been obtained respecting the fate of the twenty-three Kroomen whom the "Lucifer" had been sent in pursuit of some time ago, the officer stated that on the return of that vessel to Martinique, the commander reported that, at some distance from the coast of Martinique, he found a canoe upset, and several dead bodies strewn about.

4. The officer did not make any inquiries as to whether the Africans he was in pursuit of had reached St. Lucia, and after a few minutes' conversation he retired. The "Acheron" put to sea again at 9 o'clock A.M.

I have, &c.  
 (Signed) HENRY A. BREEN,  
*Administrator of the Government.*

## No. 96.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, November 16, 1858.*

I FORWARD herewith a copy of a report made to Her Majesty's Government by the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the African station, relative to the Slave Trade.\*

The facts therein described being reported solely for the information of Her Majesty's Government, I do not propose to found upon them any representation to the Governments of France or of the United States; but it is due to those Governments that they should be made aware of details which prove the continued existence of Slave Traffic on the Coast of Africa, and the encouragement which has been given to that Traffic by the fraudulent conduct of persons assuming foreign protection.

The abuse of a national flag, and the use of fraudulent papers, or even of legitimate papers obtained for fraudulent purposes, has been rendered so apparent, that Her Majesty's Government must needs believe that the honour of all great maritime nations is involved in putting an end to such piratical practices.

I will not permit myself to doubt that the enlightened Government of France can take any other than a just view of this matter; and I feel confident that a confidential commu-



nication of the facts detailed by Admiral Grey will induce the French Government to consider seriously how far the interests of legitimate commerce, of national honour, and of general humanity, are bound up in one comprehensive scheme for verifying the flags and papers of merchant-vessels of all countries.

Your Excellency will accordingly make known to Count Walewski the contents of Admiral Grey's Report, in order that features affecting very materially the question under consideration of the right of visit, may not be lost sight of in treating a subject of such intense interest.

No. 97.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, November 23, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Lawless, Her Majesty's Consul at Martinique,\* reporting the arrival in that island of a cargo of coolie immigrants from India; and I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate a copy of this despatch to His Imperial Highness Prince Napoleon, as head of the Commission for inquiring into the system now pursued by the French Government for procuring labourers for their Colonies.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) COWLEY.

No. 98.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, November 27, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency, for your information, extracts of two despatches from Commodore Wise,† reporting on the Slave Trade on the West Coast of Africa, and on the manner in which the French emigration scheme is conducted.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 99.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, December 4, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 25th of August last, I inclose, for your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch from Mr. Reade, Acting British Consul-General at Tripoli, relating to the introduction of slaves into the Algerine territory.‡

No. 100.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 4, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copies of two despatches§ from the British Agent at Zanzibar to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, reporting the proceedings of the French in carrying out their emigration scheme on the East Coast of Africa, and inclosing copies of a correspondence on this subject between the Governor of Réunion and the Sultan of Zanzibar.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

\* No. 116.  
‡ No. 281.

† Class A, Nos. 131 and 138.  
§ Laid before Parliament during the past Session by the India Board.

No. 101.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 16, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency the accompanying extracts of a letter from Commander Hunt, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto,"\* inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between him and the Liberian authorities, on the occasion of his being applied to by the Liberian Government for his assistance to prevent a French vessel from shipping negroes from the Liberian territory in violation of the laws of that Republic.

Your Excellency will communicate the contents of the inclosed papers to the French Government for the use, if they think fit, of the Commission appointed to report upon the working of the French emigration scheme.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 102.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, December 16, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency copies of two despatches† from the British Agent at Zanzibar; one containing general information respecting the proceedings of French vessels on the East Coast of Africa, and the other forwarding a translation of an Arabic letter addressed to the Sultan of Zanzibar in April 1857, by M. Runtoné, one of the principal merchants of the Island of Réunion, urging his Highness to permit the shipment of slaves from his territories for employment in the French colonies, and offering his Highness a participation in the profit to be derived from the purchase and sale of slaves.

Your Excellency will communicate the contents of M. Runtoné's letter to the French Government as an evidence of the effect of the French emigration scheme.

No. 103.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, December 18, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Martinique,‡ reporting the arrival in that island of the American barque "Lawrence," having on board 126 African labourers, being part of a cargo brought from the coast of Africa to French Guiana by the French ship "Joseph."

Your Excellency will observe that the shipment of these negroes from the coast of Africa would appear to have been a private speculation, and not under any contract with the French Government.

No. 104.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 30, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th instant, I transmit, for your Excellency's information, copies of a letter and its inclosures from Commander Hunt, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto,"§ containing further intelligence respecting his proceedings in the case of the French emigrant-ship "Phoenix," off the coast of Liberia.

Your Excellency will use your discretion with regard to any parts of this correspondence which you may think it advisable to communicate to the French Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

\* Class A, No. 147.

† Laid before Parliament during the past Session by the India Board.

‡ No. 117.

§ Class A, No. 148.

No. 106.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 11, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 18th December, I inclose for your Excellency's information a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Martinique,\* reporting the arrival in that island of a further cargo of African labourers on board the French ship "La Ville d'Aigues Mortes."

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 108.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 17, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 11th ultimo, I transmit to your Excellency herewith a copy of a further despatch from Her Majesty's Consul in the Island of Martinique, reporting the arrival there, from the West Coast of Africa, of the French ship "Van Dyck," with a cargo of African immigrants.†

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 109.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Earl Cowley.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 17, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd of November last, I transmit to your Excellency herewith a copy of a further despatch from Her Majesty's Consul in the Island of Martinique, reporting the arrival there of the French ship "Nicholas Poussin," with a cargo of coolie immigrants from Pondichery.‡

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 110.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Viscount Chelsea.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 26, 1859.*

WITH reference to the despatches which I have at various times addressed to Lord Cowley, communicating to his Excellency copies of reports received from Her Majesty's naval officers on the African coast on the subject of the French emigration scheme, I now transmit, for your Lordship's information, copies of a letter and its inclosures, from Commodore Wise, which have been communicated to me by the Admiralty, containing further information on the same subject.§

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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\* No. 118.

† No. 120.  
§ Class A, No. 163.

‡ No. 119.

FRANCE (*Consular*)—*Algiers.*

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No. 111.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Bell.*

*Foreign Office, April 1, 1858.*

(Extract.)

I TRANSMIT to you herewith an extract of a report which I have received from Colonel Herman, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Tripoli,\* containing some observations with regard to the new direction which the Traffic in African slaves has taken since the promulgation of the Sultan's Decree prohibiting the exportation of slaves from that Regency.

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No. 112.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Bell.*

*Foreign Office, May 4, 1858.*

Sir,

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of despatch which I have received from Colonel Herman, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Tripoli,† containing some observations in reply to the comments made by you on the statements of Mr. Fremeaux, the Acting British Vice-Consul at Mourzuk, relative to the introduction of slaves into the Algerine territory.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 503.

† No. 267.

FRANCE. (*Consular*)—*Martinique.*

No. 113.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 5.)*

(Extract.)

*St. Pierre, February 28, 1858.*

I BEG to lay before your Lordship such information as I have be enable to obtain on the subject of the treatment of the Africans introduced into this island under the Regis contract, and which I consider to be strictly accurate.

It is stipulated in the contract between Messrs. Regis and the French Government that the usual quarantine regulations are to be waived in favour of their vessels coming to this island with immigrants from Africa. In consequence, on the arrival of the ship in which they are conveyed, the immigrants are landed without any delay, and are taken to a place of depôt where they are immediately examined by the medical authorities, by whom such as manifest any symptoms of disease are at once sent to the public infirmary. They are next inspected by the Special Commissary of Immigration, an officer in the pay of the Government, who, aided by an interpreter, assures himself of the number and the identity of the immigrants, by means of a nominative and descriptive ("signalétique") list, which is sent by the agent of the French Government, in Africa, to the Governor of this island. He likewise registers the births and deaths that have occurred during the voyage, and he inquires fully into the causes of the mortalities that are so reported to him. It is the duty of this officer also to ascertain whether the immigrants have been well treated on board, and the regulations in respect to diet and medical attendance properly complied with during the voyage. He then proceeds to enter the names of all the immigrants in a matriculation register, and they are afterwards divided into lots of tens, to be apportioned to the planters; and great care is taken in order that families, and even friends, may not be separated. From three to six days are required to made the above detailed arrangements; and I should perhaps here remark to your Lordship that the duties which thus devolve upon the Special Commissary are not gone through as mere formalities, for I have been a witness to the strict and patient manner in which they are discharged by him. The immigrants are now distributed among the proprietors who have applied for them. Until this is done they are not allowed to leave the place of depôt, which is a large building, lately erected for the purpose by the Local Government, close by the sea, near the dockyard at Fort de France, the political capital of this island. The necessity of this measure, to enable the Commissary of Immigration to get through his duties speedily, is obvious. The immigrants cannot, however, be said to be in confinement, in the usual acceptation of the word; nor are they treated as prisoners, for the measures that are observed in their regard are not even of a nature to prevent their egress from the place of depôt, if they were disposed to make their escape. In confirmation of this statement I may be allowed to mention that, until the building at Fort de France was erected, all the immigrants introduced into the colony were landed at this port (Saint Pierre), and on such occasions the place of depôt usually chosen for their reception by the authorities, was the public bath establishment.

The immigrants are not allowed to choose their employers, but are distributed among such proprietors as can furnish the guarantees of respectability ("honorabilité") and solvency, which the authorities consider requisite to ensure the proper working of the system.

The proprietors who desire to obtain immigrants must send in their applications to the Administration beforehand, accompanied by a statement, certified by the Mayor of his parish, showing the name and extent of the estate, or estates, upon which he purposes to employ these labourers; and the number of hogsheads of sugar, or pounds weight of coffee, &c., made thereon during the preceding year. If the claimant be possessed of the necessary practical and pecuniary requirements, his application is numbered according to

date, and entered in a register kept for that purpose by the Commissary of Immigration. A list of the applications so registered, and the number of emigrants applied for by each proprietor, is published, from time to time, in the official journal, for general information. The distribution of the immigrants to the proprietors thus qualified is made in the following manner:—The immigrants are divided into lots of tens, as already mentioned, and each lot is numbered. A corresponding proportion of tickets, with numbers to suit, are placed in a box, from which they are drawn by the different proprietors, in order of priority of inscription on the register kept by the Commissary of Immigration; but no proprietor can receive more than two lots, or twenty labourers, from each ship-load, for the same estate, however important the nature of his demand may be. This mode of proceeding conciliates the interests of both the immigrants and their employers, while feelings of jealousy are avoided, and any suspicion of partiality on the part of the Administration is, at the same time, prevented.

I have now to state to your Lordship the conditions of a pecuniary nature, subject to which the services of the immigrants are secured to the colony, and the proportionate part of the expenses of their introduction, which the Government and the proprietors support. In accordance with the terms of their contract with the Home Government, Messrs. Regis are entitled to receive from the colony, for each adult labourer landed at Martinique, after such labourer has been indentured to the proprietor to whom he is allotted by the Administration, a sum of 500 francs, viz. :—

- 200 francs, being the amount of their stated disbursements for the immigrant's use in Africa (I shall presently explain to your Lordship the nature of this disbursement).
- 300 francs, the premium given them, as compensation for their pains and trouble, by the Government.

500 francs.

From this sum of 500 francs a deduction of 3 per cent. is made for the benefit of the Naval Pension Fund (Caisse des Invalides de la Marine). The first-mentioned sum of 200 francs is repaid the Government by the proprietor before he receives the immigrants allotted to him, together with a sum of 30 francs, which is termed "registration fees," on taking up the indenture of each immigrant. Of the remaining 300 francs so advanced in the first instance by the Government, the proprietor is obliged to reimburse a further sum of 200 francs in three equal payments, to be made in each twelve, twenty-four, and thirty-six months; he is also required to pay a "proportional duty" ("droit proportionnel") of six francs per annum, in half-yearly instalments, being a tax at the rate of 5 per cent. on the yearly wages of one engaged labourer. This tax, as well as the registration fees, is, however, appropriated to the increase of the Immigration Fund. In case of the immigrant's death within the period of his engagement, the proportional duty ceases; but not the obligation to complete the reimbursement of the 200 francs, which must be paid regardless of that contingency. But, on the other hand, the proprietor is entitled to receive out of the immigrant's wages the 200 francs which Messrs. Regis are reputed to have paid for his use in Africa; and a deduction of three francs per month is made from each adult immigrant's salary until this sum of 500, I mean 200 francs is paid.

Your Lordship will remark from the foregoing details that the 500 francs allowed to Messrs. Regis for each adult immigrant are, in point of fact, supported as follows:—

100 francs by the Government, 200 francs by the proprietor, and 200 francs by the emigrant.

And the total cost to the proprietor to secure the industrial services of the latter for ten years amounts but to 290 francs, viz. :—

	Francs.	Francs.
Paid in cash .. .. .	200	
Paid in three instalments .. .. .	200	
Registration fees .. .. .	30	
Proportional tax .. .. .	60	
	—	490
Less the amount which he recovers from the immigrant .. .. .		200
		290

According to the engagement subscribed to in Africa by the immigrant, which is the same document that is afterwards transferred to the proprietor here by Messrs. Regis, the term of the immigrant's obligatory stay, in Martinique, is for ten full years, which are not to be held completed until he has worked ten times 312 days. During this time he is to

be provided with lodgings, medical attendance, and two suits of clothing. His rations consist of salt fish, rice, and cassava flour, in the usual proportions given to the native agricultural labourers, and he has wages at the rate of twelve francs per month of twenty-six working days. Only one-half of his earnings are paid to him monthly, and the other half at the expiration of the year, when his account on the register of the estate is made out, in his presence, before the Juge de Paix, and due deductions are made for sickness and absences. For each day's absence without leave, or from sickness occasioned by his own excesses, the immigrant forfeits one day's pay actually earned, in addition to the day so lost. It may, therefore, be computed that an average actual residence of twelve years will be necessary to entitle the immigrant to his "rapatriement," which, even then, he can claim only in case of his having made a monthly deposit of the tenth part of his wages in the Immigration Chest.

There can be no doubt, that the immigrants introduced into this Island by Messrs. Regis were purchased by their agents in Africa, from the Chiefs, and were then made to subscribe to an engagement in which they declare that they are free men, and as such, willingly and of their own accord, consent to leave the country for the purposes and on the conditions specified in that engagement. Although these persons may have gone through some inquiry on the subject, the nature of the supply must cause this process to be considered only as a mere formality, and their utter ignorance renders them wholly incompetent to understand the nature and the condition of the contract they have entered into.

The sixth Article of that Agreement, copy of which I have the honour to forward to your Lordship herewith, contains an acknowledgment on the part of the immigrant of his having received from the representative of Messrs. Regis, advances to the amount of 200 francs, for the purpose of procuring his ransom, and for sundry other charges, on the understanding that the money so advanced is to be recovered from his wages.

This seems an official admission of the real manner in which these immigrants are procured. I am unable to state to your Lordship whether the above-mentioned sum of 200 francs is really disbursed by Messrs. Regis for the immigrant. I have been informed that the payments to the Chiefs were usually made in kind, and consisted generally of cotton cloths of English manufacture, gunpowder, and arms. In the case of the "Clara," the muskets, &c., are said to have been purchased from the French Government, and to have formed part of the spoils of Sebastopol.

I take the liberty to inclose, for your Lordship's information, a small pamphlet containing the Decrees and local Ordinances relative to the transport and the employment of immigrants, and which regulate all engagements to labour in this Colony. These laws, which are as brief and as simple as is consistent with the importance of the matters which they regulate, afford the means of enforcing the performance of the contract on the part of the immigrants, by one uniform system; while at the same time they protect them from fraud, and secure the enjoyment of the privileges to which the immigrants are entitled. Very great pains are taken by the authorities to prevent any ill-usage to the immigrants, who are instructed to complain, on such occasions, to the nearest Commissary of Police. This functionary immediately reports the matter to the Commissary of Immigration; and, if it result from the inquiry instituted by him, that any real grounds of complaint exist, the immigrants are withdrawn, and the proprietor is liable to the forfeiture of the sums paid by him, and also to be prosecuted by the Government.

Even reiterated complaints of the same proprietor, when not fully proven, will prevent any further demand of his for emigrants being acceded to. The native labourers, who naturally feel much sympathy for these immigrants, soon initiate them in knowledge and exercise of their rights.

In justice to the planters of this Island, I should say that complaints are seldom made, and, in general, the immigrants are well treated, and enjoy on the estates many privileges beyond those they are entitled to. Besides, it has become the interest of the proprietors to act well and fairly by these persons, in order to induce them to settle on their estates on the expiration of their engagements; for it is felt that the future prosperity of the Colony will depend in a very great measure on foreign labour.

Notwithstanding the severity of the laws for the suppression of vagrancy, the endeavours of the Government to encourage agricultural pursuits, and, finally, the high wages which they receive, it is a well-ascertained fact, that the native labourers are diminishing in number, year by year, in an alarming degree. Such as cannot afford, themselves, to purchase a small portion of land, acquire the right of settling on that of some more fortunate companion, upon which they maintain their families with little exertion, in consequence of the paucity of their wants, and the great fertility of the soil in this too-prolific climate. On the other hand, those agricultural labourers who remain faithful to

their pursuits, teach their children to despise their calling, and do all they can to procure for them some other means of existence. This is felt to be the great evil, and all the energies of the Administration are directed to check its progress, but hitherto without much success. No alternative seems to be left but immigration, to prevent the injury that must result from such a state of things, and stimulate the native agricultural population to regular habits of industrial labour.

In conclusion, I beg to assure your Lordship, that I shall not fail to continue to report to your Lordship any further information that I may be able to obtain relative to this matter.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 113.

*Agreement.*

IMMIGRATION AFRICAINE.

CE jourd'hui mil huit cent cinquante, par-devant nous, Commissaire du Gouvernement Français, Agent d'Emigration, conformément à l'Article VIII du Décret du 27 Mars, 1852, assisté de témoins requis, a comparu le nommé , noir libre, né au village de , côte de , âgé , lequel nous a déclaré consentir librement et de son plein gré à partir pour une des Colonies Françaises d'Amérique pour y contracter l'engagement de travail ci-après détaillé et présenté par M. au nom de M. Regis, au profit de l'habitant qui sera signé par l'Administration Locale à son arrivée dans la Colonie.

Les conditions d'engagement de travail sont les suivants :—

Art. 1. Le nommé s'engage, tant pour les travaux de culture et de fabrication sucrière, &c., que pour tous autres d'exploitation agricole et industrielle auxquels l'engagiste jugera convenable de l'employer et généralement pour tous les travaux quelconques de domesticité.

Art. 2. Le présent engagement de travail est de dix années à partir du jour de l'entrée au service de l'engagiste. L'engagé doit 26 jours de travail effectifs et complets par mois ; les gages ne seront dus qu'après 26 jours de travail. La journée de travail ordinaire sera celle établie par les règlements existants dans la Colonie. A l'époque de la manipulation, l'engagé sera tenu de travailler sans augmentation de salaires suivant les besoins de l'établissement où il sera employé.

Art. 3. L'engagiste aura le droit de céder et transporter à qui bon lui semblera, sous le contrôle de l'Administration, le présent engagement de travail contracté à son profit.

Art. 4. L'engagé sera logé sur l'établissement où il sera employé ; il aura droit, de la part de l'engagiste, aux soins médicaux, à sa nourriture, laquelle sera conforme aux règlements et à l'usage adopté dans la Colonie pour les gens de travail du pays. Bien entendu que toute maladie contractée par un fait étranger, soit à ses travaux, soit à ses occupations, sera à ses frais.

Art. 5. Le salaire de l'engagé est de—

12 fr. pour les hommes ;  
10 fr. pour les femmes ; et,  
8 fr. pour les enfants de 10 à 14 ans ;

par mois de 26 jours de travail, comme il est dit à l'Article 2, à partir de 8 jours après son débarquement dans la Colonie. Moitié de cette somme lui sera payée fin chaque mois, l'autre moitié le sera fin de chaque année.

Art. 6. L'engagé reconnaît avoir reçu en avance du représentant de M. Regis, la somme de 200 francs dont il s'est servi pour sa libération et pour divers frais à son compte. Ces avances seront retenues sur ses salaires à raison de\* par mois.

Art. 7. L'engagé déclare par avance se soumettre aux règlements rendus dans la Colonie pour la police du travail et de l'immigration.

Art. 8. A l'expiration de son temps d'engagement, le rapatriement sera accordé à l'immigrant pour lui, sa femme, et ses enfants non-adultes, à la condition par celui-ci de verser mensuellement à la caisse d'immigration le dixième de son salaire.

Si l'engagé renonce à son rapatriement, toute somme versée par lui, lui sera remboursée.

\* 3 francs pour les hommes, 2 francs pour les femmes, 1 franc 50 centimes pour les non-adultes.



En cas de réengagement, les conditions en seront débattues de gré à gré entre l'engagé et le propriétaire engagé.

Fait et signé de bonne foi, le

(Signé)

Certifié par le Délégué de l'Administration  
faisant fonctions d'Agent d'Emigration,  
(Signé)

Je, soussigné, déclare transférer le présent contrat à M.  
propriétaire à

Fort de France, le , 185 .

Par procuration de M. Régis aîné,  
(Signé)

Enregistré à Fort de France, le fr. c. reçu  
pour droit fixe et  
pour un semestre du droit proportionnel.

(Signé)

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Inclosure 2 in No. 113.

*Pamphlet entitled "Décrets et Arrêtés portant Règlement sur l'Organisation et la Police du Travail."*

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No. 114.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 31.)*

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, May 11, 1858.*

REFERRING to my despatch of the 28th February last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, a late number of the official journal of this Colony, containing a list of the applications for African immigrants that have been registered by the Commissary of Immigration, and which remain over, unsatisfied as yet.

These applications amount, already, to 290, for 6,681 Africans; and they would rapidly increase if there appeared any immediate likelihood of a supply of this class of labourers being obtained, sufficient to meet the demands.

There has been no arrival of immigrants from the coast of Africa, at this island, since that of the ship "Clara," reported in my despatch of the 8th of December last.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. LAWLESS.

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No. 115.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 31.)*

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, May 12, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the arrival at this island of the French ship "Nicholas Poussin," with a cargo of coolie immigrants from India, in fulfilment of the contract made by the "Compagnie Générale Maritime," of Paris, with the French Government.

The "Nicholas Poussin" sailed from Pondicherry on the 22nd of January last, and from Karikal on the 28th of the same month, after having previously shipped at these ports 470 immigrants, viz.,

372 men;

63 women;

20 non-adults; and

15 children of both sexes;

And she arrived at Fort de France on the 16th ultimo, after a favourable passage of seventy-eight days, including twenty-four hours spent at St. Helena, to procure fresh provisions and water.

Several cases of small-pox having occurred among the immigrants during the voyage, it was found necessary to place the vessel, on her arrival, in quarantine at La Pointe Debout, in the Bay of Fort de France, where the immigrants were landed temporarily, and the proper sanitary measures of precaution adopted to efface the contagion.

On the 2nd instant, the ship was permitted to come into the harbour, and she then landed 455 immigrants, viz.,

361 men ;  
62 women ;  
20 non-adults ; and  
12 children.

The number of deaths that took place among the immigrants, while on board, amounted, therefore, to 15, viz.,

11 men ;  
1 woman ; and  
3 children.

Of this number, six died of the small-pox and the remainder of dysentery and other non-contagious diseases.

The immigrants brought by this ship seemed to be in good health and spirits, and able-bodied men of their class. They are almost all "parias:" but the coolies of this caste are preferred by the planters, on account of the greater facility with which they adapt themselves to the food and the customs of this country. As usual, a large proportion of the immigrants come, originally, from British India.

The registered tonnage of the "Nicholas Poussin" is 445 tons French, or about 467 tons English measurement.

The arrangements on board for the accommodation of the passengers seemed very complete, and the immigrants spoke most favourably of the care and attention which they received from the master, and also from the surgeon in charge of the ship, who is, himself, a native of India.

It may not be out of place to mention here that it has been remarked that in the vessels entrusted to the care of properly qualified natives, the losses have been less heavy than on board of the ships which European surgeons have had charge of; a circumstance to be attributed, no doubt, to the difficulty which the latter have to communicate with the coolies.

I take the liberty to inclose herewith, for your Lordship's further information on the subject of the introduction of coolie labourers from India to this Colony, a detailed statement of the total number of vessels that have arrived here with that class of immigrants, the tonnage of these vessels, the length of their passages, the number of immigrants they conveyed, and the number of deaths that occurred on board of each ship during the voyage.

According to the terms of the engagements subscribed to by these immigrants, the length of their obligatory stay is for five years; and your Lordship will remark that the period of the engagements of many of those first imported will, consequently, shortly expire.

With a view to induce these labourers to prolong their stay in the island, it has been decided by the Government that, to such of these persons as may be willing to subscribe to a re-engagement, of the tenour of the document inclosed herewith, a premium of 250 francs (10*l.*) will be given, irrespective of the continuance of their right to a free return passage, on the expiration of the second engagement.

It remains to be seen whether the coolies will accept of these terms willingly.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. LAWLESS.

## Inclosure 1 in No. 115.

STATEMENT of the total Number of Coolie Immigrants introduced into Martinique from the French Possessions in India, &c.

Date of Arrival at Martinique.	Names of the Vessels Employed.	Registered Tonnage.	Length of Passage	Number of Coolies			Remarks.
				Embarked in India.	Died on Passage.	Landed at Martinique.	
May 6, 1853	Aurélie .. ..	312	Days. 91	316	4	312	Average length of passage, 84 days. Average ratio of mortality, 3.93 per cent.
Feb. 27, 1854	Louis Napoléon ..	495	75	516	13	503	
Oct. 18,	Belle Gabrielle ..	367	102	378	5	373	
Feb. 26, 1855	Arnaud .. ..	376	76	381	None	381	
March 10, 1856	Indien .. ..	705	94	664	20	644	
Sept. 21,	Madagascar ..	352	59	346	10	336	
Dec. 10,	Hampden .. ..	544	78	570	21	549	
Mar. 18, 1857	Rubens .. ..	719	89	748	27	721	
Sept. 20,	Richelieu .. ..	514	102	523	10	513	
April 16, 1858	Nicholas Poussin ..	445	78	470	15	455	
		4,829	844	4,912	125	4,787	

St. Pierre, May 6, 1858.

(Signed)

WM. LAWLESS, Consul.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 115.

## Agreement.

## IMMIGRATION INDIENNE.

CE jourd'hui 185 Par devant nous  
Maire de la Commune de , agissant aux termes de l'Article 4 du Décret  
du 13 Février, 1852, sur les engagements de travail aux Colonies, et en présence du  
Commissaire d'Immigration; a comparu le nommé lequel nous a  
déclaré vouloir contracter l'engagement de travail, ci-après détaillé, envers M.  
Savoir :—

Article 1. Le nommé s'engage pour tous les travaux d'exploitation agricole auxquels l'engagiste jugera convenable de l'employer.

Art. 2. Le présent engagement de travail est de\* années consecutives, c'est-à-dire de † mois; chaque mois composé de vingt-six jours de travail effectifs et complets; les gages ne seront dus qu'après les vingt-six jours de travail.

L'engagement ne sera réputé accompli et l'engagé ne pourra obtenir son congé d'acquit qu'autant que toutes les journées promises auront été réellement fournies.

La journée de travail ordinaire sera celle établie par les règlements en vigueur dans la Colonie. A l'époque de la manipulation, l'engagé sera tenu de travailler suivant les besoins de l'établissement où il sera employé, sans indemnité aucune pour surcroît de travail.

Art. 3. L'engagiste aura droit de céder et de transporter quand et à qui bon lui semblera, le présent engagement de travail contracté à son profit, et qui ne peut valider, à peine de nullité, que pour les travaux des exploitations agricoles.

Art. 4. L'engagé sera logé sur l'établissement où il sera employé. Il aura droit, de la part de l'engagiste, aux soins médicaux, en tout état de cause, à sa nourriture, laquelle

\* 5 ou 7.

† 60 ou 84.

sera conforme aux réglemens et à l'usage adopté dans la Colonie pour les travailleurs du pays, et à deux rechanges par an.

Bien entendu que toute maladie contracté par un fait étranger, soit à ses travaux, soit à ses occupations à l'établissement, sera à ses frais. C'est-à-dire qu'il devra rembourser à l'engagiste la dépense en résultant.

En cas d'invalidité quelconque de l'engagé, l'engagiste sera tenu de continuer à lui donner le logement, la nourriture, et les soins jusqu'à son rapatriement ou jusqu'à l'expiration de l'engagement.

Art. 5. L'engagé subira pour chaque jour d'absence ou cessation de travail sans motif légitime, indépendamment de la privation de salaires pour cette journée, la retenue d'une seconde journée de salaires à titre de dommages-intérêts.

Art. 6. Le salaire de l'engagé est de\* par mois de vingt-six jours de travail, comme il est dit à l'Article 2. Moitié de cette somme lui sera payée fin de chaque mois, l'autre moitié le sera après la manipulation, fin de chaque année.

Art. 7. Après l'expiration du temps de travail stipulé à l'Article 2, l'engagé aura droit au passage de rapatriement pour lui, sa femme, et ses enfants non-adultes.

Art. 8. Tous les ans, à la fin de l'année, un congé de quatre jours sera accordé à l'Indien pour célébrer la fête du Pongol.

De tout quoi, nous avons dressé le procès-verbal, que nous avons signé avec les témoins ci-dessus nommés, dont expédition a été remise aux Parties Contractantes pour servir et valoir ce que de droit.

Enregistré à le 185 Fo. vo. c. ;  
reçu pour droit fixe et pour semestre de droit proportionnel.  
(Signé)

No. 116.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 20.)*

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, October 13, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship of the arrival of the French ship "Réaumur" from Pondichery and Karikal, with coolie immigrants, in fulfilment of the contract entered into by the "Compagnie Générale Maritime" of Paris with the French Government.

This ship took on board, before sailing from Karikal on the 10th June last, 570 immigrants, as follows:—

484 male adults;  
61 female adults;  
12 non-adults of both sexes; and  
13 children.

And she landed at Fort de France, on the 6th instant, 544 coolies, viz.:—

460 male adults;  
59 female adults;  
12 non-adults; and  
13 children.

It follows, therefore, that the number of deaths during the voyage, which lasted 110 days, amounted to twenty-six, or very nearly 5 per cent., which is a higher ratio of mortality than had been previously observed on board of the French vessels engaged in the transport of coolie immigrants to this island.

The master of the "Réaumur" reports having experienced very unfavourable weather during the voyage, which, no doubt, increased the number of sick cases that occurred on board. The surgeon in charge of the ship is a native of India.

The coolies brought by the "Réaumur," and landed at Fort de France, appeared to be in excellent health, and are strong able-bodied men of their class. A large number of these immigrants come from the provinces of British India; the Madras Presidency, as usual, furnishing the larger proportion.

The total number of coolies introduced into this Colony, including those brought by the "Réaumur," amounts to 5,331; and, on the 30th ultimo, a balance of 1,200,000 francs remained to the credit of the Immigration Chest of the island.

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

\* 12 francs 50 centimes pour les hommes, 10 francs pour les femmes, 5 francs pour les non-adultes.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, November 5, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship the arrival, at Fort de France, in this island, of an American barque, the "Lawrence," having on board 126 African labourers.

These immigrants formed part of a cargo brought from the Coast of Africa to French Guiana by the French ship "Joseph," which vessel was unable to continue her voyage to this island in consequence of the damages she sustained during the passage from the Coast of Africa to Cayenne.

The usual means of communication between this port and Cayenne (I mean to say, Fort de France), having been interrupted for several days by one of the most violent "ras de marées" that has been experienced here for the last thirty years, I was prevented from proceeding to Fort de France to visit the "Lawrence," and, as she only remained two days in port, and made no entry at the Custom-house, I have been unable to ascertain her official tonnage; but it would seem that she is a small vessel, from the fact that she was laden with but 125 hogsheads of sugar, and that the Africans she conveyed had to remain upon deck during the passage from Cayenne to this island, which lasted nine days. The number of deaths that occurred on board during that voyage amounted to 7; 133 Africans having been embarked at Cayenne.

The "Lawrence" arrived at Fort de France on the 24th ultimo; about a week subsequently the "Joseph" also arrived in tow of the Imperial screw store-ship "Seine," to complete her repairs.

It appears, from the information which I have been able to obtain upon the subject, that the "Joseph," which is a vessel of 460 tons register, is the property of a M. Vidal, of Hâvre, by whom she was dispatched to the Coast of Africa to collect labourers, in consequence of an engagement entered into by him with the "Compagnie des Mines d'Or de Cayenne," and two large landed proprietors of this colony. According to the terms of the contract, these parties undertook to pay M. Vidal the usual premium allotted by the Government for the immigrants introduced by MM. Regis, of Marseilles, in case of the refusal of the Administration to extend that favour to him, in consequence of his having no Treaty with the Home Government; but our Local Government have consented to pay, from the Immigration Chest, the usual bonus of 300 francs for each adult labourer, so that the cost of the introduction of the Africans by the "Lawrence" has been defrayed by the colony, and the proprietors to whom they have come, in the usual proportions. The total amount received by M. Vidal, for each adult labourer so introduced into this island, is 500 francs.

I have also learned that the "Joseph" had embarked 350 Africans at the Coast of Africa, and that she landed 142 at Cayenne, exclusive of those transshipped to the "Lawrence" for conveyance to Martinique. It would appear, therefore, that the mortality during the voyage from the Coast of Africa to French Guiana, which lasted fifty days, amounted to 75, to which number are to be added the deaths that took place subsequently on board of the "Lawrence," forming a total loss of 82 immigrants.

The Africans by the "Joseph" were recruited on the West Coast of Africa, and were all collected within a very narrow extent of territory near Gaboon river. The master of the "Joseph," in consequence of some difficulties which he appears to have had on this point with the French naval commander on that part of the Coast of Africa, gave up the command of the vessel, and his place was supplied by an officer of the rank of "Enseigne de Vaisseau," from the man-of-war, by whom she was brought to Cayenne, and afterwards to this island.

A properly-qualified medical man was on board of the "Joseph," and the usual regulations respecting immigrants appear to have been complied with in other respects also.

I have been given to understand that M. Vidal intends to continue to introduce African labourers to the French colonies, and that a second vessel will shortly be dispatched to the above referred to part of the Coast of Africa for another cargo of African immigrants.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. LAWLESS.

No. 118.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received January 3, 1859.)

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, December 13, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of your Lordship, the arrival in this island from the West Coast of Africa of the French ship "La Ville d'Aigues-Mortes," with a cargo of African labourers. This ship sailed from the coast of Africa on the 26th of October last, with 821 negroes, embarked at Congo and Loango, and she arrived in sight of this port on the 3rd, and at Fort de France on the 5th instant. On the following day she landed 740 labourers, viz., 580 men, 156 women, and 4 children.

The mortalities that occurred on board during the voyage amount, consequently, to 81; and some more deaths have taken place among those landed, several of whom appeared to be suffering from the effects of dysentery, which disease seems to have been the chief cause of the losses on board. The great majority of the negroes appeared to be in good health and condition.

The negroes by the "Ville d'Aigues-Mortes" have been brought in fulfilment of Messrs. Regis' contract with the French Government; and they have been procured, so far as I can learn, from the interior of Africa, by Messrs. Regis' agents, from the Chiefs, by purchase or barter, in the usual manner.

I have been told by a good authority, that for several days subsequent to their embarkation, the great dread of those poor creatures was lest they should be eaten, and that, when they discovered their fears on that head were unfounded, they became quite contented and happy.

It is hardly necessary to add, that these negroes were not consulted on the subject of the change about to be made in their destiny; and it is evident from their appearance itself, that if any attempt were made to explain to them the conditions of the contract which they are supposed to have entered into, they could not understand them.

The medical arrangements on board of the "Ville d'Aigues-Mortes," which seem to have been excellent, were under the direction of a surgeon of the second class, in the French navy, who acted also as the Government delegate on board.

The official tonnage of the "Ville d'Aigues-Mortes" is 630 tons French measurement.

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

No. 119.

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received February 15.)

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, January 27, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship of the arrival in this island of the French ship "Nicholas Poussin," with 464 coolie emigrants from Pondichery. These immigrants are in fulfilment of the contract of the "Compagnie Générale Maritime" with the French Government.

The "Nicholas Poussin" sailed from Pondichery on the 31st of October last, and arrived at Fort de France on the 20th instant, after an ordinary passage of sixty-one days. She embarked the following immigrants at Pondichery, viz.:—

364 male adults.  
67 female adults.  
41 non-adults and children of both sexes.

Having landed but 464 coolies, it follows that the deaths on board during the passage amount to—

4 male adults.  
2 female adults.  
2 children.

The medical man in charge of these immigrants is a surgeon of the French Imperial navy.

So far as I have been able to learn, the greater portion of the coolies brought by the "Nicholas Poussin" come originally from the Provinces of British India.

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

*Consul Lawless to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 15.)*

My Lord,

*St. Pierre, January 26, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, that on the 19th instant the French ship "Van Dyck" arrived at Fort de France, in this island, from Loango, on the West Coast of Africa, with 278 African immigrants, in fulfilment of the contract between Messrs. Regis, of Marseilles, and the French Government.

The "Van Dyck" is a vessel of 230 tons French register. She sailed from the coast of Africa on the 15th of December last, and arrived in Fort de France Bay on the 19th instant.

During the passage 25 immigrants died from the effects of dysentery, which malady seems to have prevailed very much on board, and several of those landed were in such a weak state as to require to be sent to the hospital.

The "Van Dyck," it is said, returns to the coast of Africa direct, for another cargo of labourers for account of the same contractors.

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

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## PORTUGAL.

No. 121.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 5.)**Lisbon, March 23, 1858.*

My Lord,

ON the 22nd of August last Mr. Paget, in execution of the instructions contained in the Earl of Clarendon's despatch to him, of the 15th of the same month,\* addressed a note to the Marquis de Loulé repeating a request which I had previously preferred on the part of Her Majesty's Government, that the Portuguese Government would revoke a concession which had been made to Senhor Manoel José da Costa Pedreira to transport 100 freed negroes from Angola to the Island of San Thomé, and which, if acted upon, could not fail, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, to prove an indirect encouragement to the Slave Trade.

I have now the honour of transmitting a translation of a note of the 19th instant, which I have received from the Marquis de Loulé, as well as of the extract inclosed in it of a despatch addressed to his Excellency on the 8th instant by the Minister of Marine, the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, in reply to Mr. Paget's above-mentioned note.

Your Lordship will perceive from the Viscount de Sá's despatch, to which the Marquis de Loulé refers me, that his Excellency explains at some length the motives which induced the Portuguese Government to grant the concession in question, and the guarantees which prevent its abuse; and that he defends it, with reference to the stipulations and objects of the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, as being greatly in the interest of the negroes whom it concerns, and who will thereby, after a short number of years, obtain the full enjoyment of liberty, as being essentially different from a case of Slave Trade and as being far from an indirect means of encouraging that traffic, but, on the contrary, as affording, in the opinion of the Portuguese Government, a means of greatly diminishing the state of slavery in the Portuguese colonies.

From the considerations which his Excellency premises he draws that conclusion, for the reasons which he gives:

1st. That the transportation of liberated negroes to the Portuguese African islands can be effected without any infringement of the letter or the spirit of existing laws and treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

2ndly. That, in consequence of the manner in which this transportation is effected, it cannot be confounded with a slave-trading expedition.

3rdly. That it would be a great advantage that similar enterprizes should be multiplied.

His Excellency then again refers to the legal guarantees which remove all idea that negroes in the position of those in question could be ever reduced to slavery. He terminates his despatch by expressing the hope that Her Majesty's Government will not fail to recognize the good grounds on which the concession to Senhor Pedreira was made, and that no advantage would result from its revocation.

For my own part I am fully convinced that the Viscount de Sá would not have hesitated to revoke the concession in question, had he been of opinion that it would lead to abuse, and that he will not fail to watch over the fate of the liberated negroes in the Portuguese possessions, in whose speedy complete freedom he takes so deep an interest.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 259.



Inclosure 1 in No. 121.

*The Marquis de Loulé to Mr. Howard.*

(Translation.)

*Palace, March 19, 1858.*

IN answer to the note which Mr. Paget wrote to me under date of the 22nd August of last year, with reference to the one which you had addressed to me on the 12th November, 1856, and in which he acquainted me that he had received instructions from his Government to express the hope that the concession granted to Manoel José da Costa Pedreira, a merchant and landowner of the province of St. Thomas and Prince, for conveying up to 100 liberated slaves from the province of Angola to the Island of St. Thomas, should be revoked, I have to state to you that His Majesty's Government did not hesitate to grant to the above-mentioned landowner the concession in question, for the reasons set forth in the despatch of the Minister of Marine, of which I transmit to you herewith an extract.

From this despatch you will see that the difference between this concession and the one granted to João Maria de Souza e Almeida, a merchant and landowner of Benguella, which was noted by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, did not affect it, and that no advantage can result from the revocation suggested by the British Government.

I renew, &amp;c.

(Signed) MARQUIS DE LOULE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 121.

*The Minister of Marine to the Marquis de Loulé.*

(Translation.)

*Foreign Office, Lisbon, March 8, 1858.*

(Extract.)

HIS Majesty's Government, taking into consideration the necessity of encouraging the development of agriculture in the province of St. Thomas and Prince, as a means not only of promoting the prosperity of that province, and in general that of Portuguese commerce, but likewise for the civilization of the province, and consequently the abolition therein of the condition of slavery :

And considering that their engagements, not only with reference to the Decree of the 10th December, 1836, which prohibits the Traffic of Slaves, but also to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, entered into with Great Britain for the entire suppression of said Traffic, are, by the stipulations of the same Treaty, expressly conducive to prevent, by repressive measures, the natives of Africa from being conveyed by sea for the purpose of being reduced to slavery; and that the concession in question tended to an opposite end, being for conveying the natives of Africa for the purpose of delivering them from slavery, under the condition of giving their services for some years, which was even in harmony with the spirit of the above-mentioned Decree of the 10th December, 1836, as also with the Treaty, namely, to do away with slavery in the Portuguese Colonies :

His Majesty's Government considering further that, upon taking the precautions and securities provided by the Regulation of the 25th October, 1853, with conditions similar to those which are applied to slaves liberated by the Mixed Commissions established by the provisions of the above-named Treaty, for securing to them good treatment and a guarantee for their freedom, they could not, with good reason, deprive slaves of this means of entering upon the enjoyment of the civil rights common to all Portuguese subjects, and of obtaining this benefit, in their condition, for the reasonable price of the tender of their services for seven years; a refusal of this would imply, on the part of the Portuguese Government, their acceptance of the responsibility of continuing these individuals in a state of slavery, by depriving them of the means of obtaining that improvement in their condition for a just price :

And, finally, His Majesty's Government, considering that liberated negroes were in a more favourable position than the emigrants from Portugal, Madeira, and the Azores, who yearly emigrate to Brazil or to British Guiana, inasmuch as, for these latter, the Government could not establish rules and regulations further than preventing their being misled or defrauded on their departure; whereas for the former, going as they did to a Portuguese territory, means could be taken for ensuring at their place of destination the compliance with the just and humane condition of their liberation :

For these just and weighty motives, they did not then hesitate to grant the said concession to Manoel José da Costa Pedreira, merchant and landowner of the province of St. Thomas and Prince, allowing him to convey thence from Angola 100 liberated negroes,

this measure being necessitated by the want of labourers in said province, owing, undoubtedly, to the strict observance by the Portuguese Government of their engagements, which, except under special circumstances and in limited number, do not allow the importation of slaves; these engagements His Majesty's Government have kept in sight, and duly considered in making, the concession; and the difference between this one and that granted to the Counsellor Almeida, as noted by the British Government, ought not to influence the refusal of it, for in each case 100 slaves passed by these means to the condition of liberated negroes:

And, further, the request for the concession, and the manner in which it was granted by the Portuguese Government, ought to be a sufficient guarantee to Her Britannic Majesty's Government that this transaction was essentially different from a case of slave-trading, or from an indirect means of encouraging the Traffic, His Majesty's Government are of opinion that, far from being such, it is a means that may greatly diminish slavery in the Portuguese Colonies.

From what I have stated, it may therefore be concluded:—

1st. That the transportation of liberated negroes to the Portuguese African Islands can be effected without any infringement of the letter or the spirit of the Laws and Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

2ndly. That, owing to the manner in which the transportation is effected, it cannot be mistaken for a slave-trading expedition, inasmuch as the liberated negroes should be furnished with passports describing them as such, and this is a palpable means of knowing the difference.

3rdly. That it would be a great advantage that similar enterprises should be multiplied; for, with sufficient guarantees, such as those provided by the Regulation of the 25th October, 1853, being similar to those of the Annex C to the Treaty with Great Britain, many slaves would thereby pass to the condition of liberated negroes.

Lastly. I will further observe to your Excellency that, even should the provisions of the Regulation of the 25th October, 1853, be not sufficient for removing all idea that such individuals could return to a state of slavery, the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, which establishes the registration of slaves, and places in the class of liberated negroes all slaves imported by land, and the Decree of the 24th July, 1856, which declares the children of female slaves to be free when born on Portuguese territory, do not admit of any other than registered slaves in the Portuguese possessions.

His Majesty's Government are so anxious to secure to liberated negroes their full liberty, that they have already caused such of them as were, at different times, sent from Angola to St. Thomas and Prince, to be emancipated from the guardianship of the Board.

I consider it unnecessary to add anything further to show the justice of the said concessions; and it is to be hoped that the British Government will not fail to admit the good reasons for granting the one in question, and the absence of any advantage in the revocation of the same.

No. 122.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 5.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, March 23, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of inclosing a translation of a Portaria, issued on the 18th instant by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira to the Board of Guardians of Slaves and Liberated Negroes in the Province of Angola, and published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 22nd instant, directing that Board to apply the funds placed at their disposal by the Portaria of the 31st of December, 1856, for the liberation of slaves, by preference to the liberation of such slaves who, having a profession, may be able to gain their own livelihood, and who, from their good conduct and habits of industry, may serve as an example, and may become useful to themselves and to society.

Identical Portarias are stated to have been forwarded to the Boards of Guardians in the Provinces of Cape Verd, of Mozambique, and of St. Thomas and Prince.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 122.

*Portaria.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS it is of manifest utility for the prosperity of the transmarine provinces, that the slaves who are liberated shall be those individuals knowing a trade, in order to be able to support themselves, and those who, by their good conduct and industrious habits, may show a good example, and be useful to themselves and to society: His Majesty the King commands that the respective Boards of Protection of Slaves and Liberated Negroes shall apply the funds which, according to the *Portaria* of 31st December, 1856, may be destined for the liberation of slaves, in preference, to the liberation of such slaves as may be under the circumstances above pointed out, and who may offer the best guarantee for future good conduct; for it would be more useful to liberate a smaller number of slaves under such circumstances, than a greater number of others who by idle or irregular conduct may become a charge upon the State and prejudicial to society. This is communicated through the Marine and Colonial Department to the Board of Protection of Slaves and Liberated Negroes in the Province of Angola, for their information and due execution.

*Palace, March 18, 1858.*

(Signed) SA DA BANDEIRA.

[Similar instructions were issued to the Boards of Protection of Slaves and Liberated Negroes of the Provinces of Cape Verd, Mozambique, and St. Thomas and Prince's.]

No. 123.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 5.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, March 23, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 22nd instant, of your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant,\* inclosing an extract from the annual report of Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, relating to the Slave Trade from the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast of Africa.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 124.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 5.)*

(Extract.)

*Lisbon, March 28, 1858.*

WITH reference to my various despatches to the Earl of Clarendon on the subject of the trial of the notorious slave-trader Don Benito Derizans, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that on my return to Lisbon in the middle of January last, I inquired of the Marquis de Loulé in what state were the proceedings instituted by the Attorney-General before the Supreme Tribunal by way of appeal against the decision of the Court of Relação of this capital, by which the condemnation pronounced upon that individual by the tribunal at Loanda was reversed, and whether Derizans was still here. But the Marquis being unable to give me the desired information, I urged the desirableness, should the proceedings in question not be terminated, of the police authorities not relaxing their measures of supervision, so as to prevent Derizans from effecting his escape and thus defeating the ends of justice.

I have since learnt that what I always anticipated and foretold had come to pass, viz., that Derizans had absconded during the time that the yellow fever was prevalent in this capital, crossing over to the other side of the Tagus, and thence effecting his escape; the police agent who was charged to watch him having died of that malady.

It was not to be supposed that Derizans would be deterred from absconding by the trifling bail of about 162*l.*, which Derizans was obliged to find, on the Court of Relação setting him at liberty.

I will now urge the forfeiture of his recognizances.

No. 125.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 14.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, April 5, 1858.*

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 19th ultimo,\* I yesterday addressed a note to the Marquis de Loulé, acquainting him, for the information of the Minister of Marine, that your Lordship had given directions, in conformity with the wish expressed by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, that Her Majesty's Consul at Mozambique should furnish the Governor-General of that Province with the information on which he founded the charge preferred by him against one of the judicial authorities of the same Colony.

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

No. 126.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 14.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, April 7, 1858.*

IN pursuance of the intention which I announced in my despatch of the 28th ultimo, of urging upon the Portuguese Government the forfeiture of the recognizances of the fugitive slave-trader, Don Benito Derizans, I addressed, on the 30th of that month, to the Marquis de Loulé, the note of which I have the honour of inclosing a copy.

Yesterday I received a note of the 3rd instant from his Excellency, stating that he had referred my note to the Minister of Justice.

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

Inclosure in No. 126.

*Mr. Howard to the Marquis de Loulé.*

(Extract.)

*Lisbon, March 30, 1858.*

I HAVE received private information that Derizans succeeded in effecting his escape from this capital and country during the prevalence of the yellow-fever in Lisbon, and thus the apprehensions which I had all along entertained, and which I frequently had the honour of conveying to your Excellency, have unfortunately been realized, and the ends of justice have been frustrated.

I now beg to point out to your Excellency the expediency of taking such legal measures as may be feasible in order to obtain the quashing by the Supreme Tribunal of the extraordinary sentence of the Relação, by which the condemnation pronounced by the Court of Loanda upon Derizans was reversed, so that at least a judgment may be recorded against him, in case of his returning to this country, or otherwise of adopting such measures against him as the laws of Portugal may justify, so as to prevent these laws against slave-trading from becoming a dead letter, and, moreover, of declaring to be forfeited and calling in the paltry bail of 730 milreis, upon the finding of which the Court of Relação thought proper to set Derizans at liberty.

No. 127.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, April 14, 1858.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 28th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having inquired of the Marquis de Loulé what progress had been made in the appeal instituted by the Portuguese Attorney-General against the decision of the Court of Relação at Lisbon, by which the sentence of the tribunal at Loanda, condemning the notorious slave-trader Don Benito Derizans to three years' imprisonment, was reversed.

It appears from your despatch that, as was to have been anticipated when Derizans was admitted to bail in so trifling a sum as 730 milreis, the ends of justice have been defeated by

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 310.

the flight of this individual ; and I have to instruct you to state to the Marquis de Loulé that, after the warning conveyed to his Excellency in the note which you addressed to him on the 22nd April last, Her Majesty's Government cannot but consider that the responsibility of having permitted this notorious slave-trader to escape the punishment which he so richly deserves, must rest with the Portuguese Government ; and you will add that the result of the proceedings in this case cannot fail to afford encouragement to the slave-traders, by showing the impunity with which their crimes are allowed to escape.

I have further to state to you that I approve of your urging, as you propose, the forfeiture of Derizans' recognizances.

No. 128.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 18.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, April 13, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, yesterday evening, of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st ultimo,\* instructing me to express to the Portuguese Government the sincere gratification with which Her Majesty's Government has received the intelligence of the introduction, by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, into the Portuguese Cortes, of the Project of Law referred to in my despatch of the 18th of that month, and which has for its object the entire abolition of slavery in the Portuguese dominions at the end of twenty years from the date of the publication of the Law ; and likewise directing me to convey to the Viscount de Sá the acknowledgments of Her Majesty's Government for the steps which his Excellency has at various times taken with a view to ameliorate the condition of the slaves, and to bring about the extinction of slavery in the Portuguese Possessions.

I will lose no time in complying with these instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 129.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, April 24, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a Memorandum which I have received from Mr. McLeod, Her Majesty's Consul at Mozambique,† containing a Report upon the French scheme for procuring negro labourers for their Colonies, as carried out on the East Coast of Africa.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 130.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 26.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, April 18, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 13th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I yesterday received a note of the 15th instant from the Marquis de Loulé, stating his communication to the Minister of Marine of the note of the 14th, in which I conveyed the sincere gratification with which Her Majesty's Government had received the intelligence of the presentation to the Chamber of Deputies of Viscount de Sá da Bandeira's project of Law relative to the eventual abolition of slavery in the Portuguese Possessions, and expressing the great satisfaction derived by His Most Faithful Majesty's Government from learning the manner in which that project of Law had been received by Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 311.

† Inclosure in No. 164.

No. 131.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 5.)**Lisbon, April 24, 1858.*

(Extract.)

IN order to carry out the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, received on the 21st, I yesterday addressed to the Marquis de Loulé a note embodying your Lordship's observations respecting the responsibility which attaches to the Portuguese Government for having permitted the notorious slave-trader Don Benito Derizans to escape the punishment he so richly deserves; and when I placed this note into his Excellency's hands, on the occasion of his yesterday's weekly reception of the Foreign Ministers, I repeated to him its contents.

His Excellency, in reply, expressed his regret at Derizans' escape, which had been facilitated by the death, from yellow fever, of the police agent charged to watch him; but observed that the blame of it rested with the Court of Justice which had set him at liberty on finding so trifling a bail as that in question, and that the Government had not, consequently, the power of arresting him.

His Excellency added that he had already taken measures towards the forfeiture of Derizans' recognizances.

No. 132.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 12.)**Lisbon, May 3, 1858.*

My Lord,

WITH reference to my despatch of the 18th of March last to your Lordship,\* transmitting a translation of a project of Law submitted to the Chamber of Deputies on the 10th of that month by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, the Minister of Marine and Colonies, enacting the entire abolition of slavery in the Portuguese dominions at the end of a period of twenty years, to be reckoned from the day on which the Law is published in the official journal of the Government, I have the honour of inclosing a translation of a Decree of the 29th ultimo, as published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 1st instant, signed by the King of Portugal, and countersigned by the Viscount de Sá, promulgating, in virtue of the power conferred upon the Government by the 1st paragraph of Article XV of the Additional Act of 1852 to the Constitutional Charter, the enactments contained in that project of Law, and which are to take effect at the end of twenty years from the date of this Decree.

The Article in question in the Additional Act gives to the Government the power, when the Cortes are not assembled, of decreeing in Council, after having heard and consulted the competent authorities, such Legislative measures as may be considered of urgency for the transmarine provinces. The Government is to submit to the Cortes, on their meeting, the measures thus taken.

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

Inclosure in No. 132.

*Decree.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS during the last twenty-two years many effectual measures have been enacted tending to approximate the period when, without prejudice to the rights secured by the social organization of other times, the state of slavery in the transmarine provinces may be entirely done away with, the indefinite duration of which is incompatible with the principles contained in the Constitutional Charter of the Monarchy: considering that for carrying out this system, which has so perseveringly been followed up, it is necessary, at least, to establish a limit to the duration of slavery, inasmuch as the actual state of the public Treasury will not allow the means for putting a stop to it at once: considering that the above-mentioned measures on the whole cannot fail in producing the result of a constant and considerable decrease in the number of slaves in the said provinces, there is every reason to hope that, at the expiration of the term of twenty years, this number may be so far reduced that the amount of compensation to be given to the legal owners of the

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 308.

then existing slaves, in order to secure their liberty without any exception, may be covered by a moderate sum : considering that under these circumstances the day may be now fixed when the state of slavery may be entirely extinct in those provinces, and, consequently, in the entire Portuguese Monarchy : considering, finally, the proposals of the Colonial Board, in their Report of the 17th November, 1854, I am pleased, in the exercise of the power granted by Section I of Article XV of the Additional Act to the Constitutional Charter, and after hearing the opinion of the Council of Ministers, to decree as follows :

Article 1. The state of slavery shall be entirely abolished in all the Portuguese transmarine provinces, without any exceptions, on the day which completes twenty years to be counted from the date of this Decree.

Art. 2. All persons who, on the day specified in the preceding Article for the entire abolition of the state of slavery in the transmarine provinces, shall still own slaves in those provinces, will receive the value of them in accordance with the stipulations of a special law.

Art. 3. All Legislative enactments to the contrary are hereby revoked.

The Viscount Sá da Bandeira, Peer of the Realm, Minister and Secretary of State for Marine and Colonies, shall have thus understood and cause it to be carried out.

*Palace of Necessidades, April 29, 1858.*

(Signed) KING.

(Countersigned) VISCOUNT DE SA DA BANDEIRA.

No. 133.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 12.)*

(Extract.)

*Lisbon, May 5, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th ultimo, relative to the case of the notorious slave-trader Don Benito Derizans, I have the honour to transmit a translation of a note of the 1st instant, which I yesterday received from his Excellency, stating, in reply, that he had sent a translation of my note to the Minister of Justice, and that on the same day that he had done so, that Minister had acquainted him that the Attorney-General had, under date of the 21st of April, reported that the Supreme Tribunal of Justice had, on the 13th of the same month, decided upon the case of Derizans, and granted a review of the sentence of the Court of Relação, on the ground of the illegal application of the amnesty of the 20th of October, 1855, to the said Derizans.

The Marquis then refers to the official intelligence received by the Government of the escape of Derizans from Lisbon.

Inclosure in No. 133.

*The Marquis de Loulé to Mr. Howard.*

(Translation.)

*Palace, May 1, 1858.*

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of the note which you wrote to me under date of the 23rd April last, relative to the proceedings instituted against Don Benito Derizans ; and having carefully perused the said note, I have to inform you that I have addressed to the Minister of Justice the necessary communication.

Reserving to myself, then, to address you upon this subject as soon as I shall have received from his Excellency the necessary information, I must, however, make known to you at once that on the same day on which I sent to his Excellency a translation of your above-mentioned note, he informed me that the Attorney-General had stated to him on the 21st of April that the case of Don Benito Derizans had been brought forward and tried in the Supreme Tribunal of Justice on the 13th, when a review of the sentence was granted on the ground of the illegal application of the amnesty of 20th October, 1855, to the said Derizans.

His Excellency adds, that from the report of the Civil Governor of Lisbon, of the 23rd March last, it appears that the individual in question escaped from his residence in the Largo do Corpo Santo, No. 6, to the south of the Tagus, as reported to the Home Office by the Civil Governor on the 30th of January last.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) MARQUIS DE LOULE.

No. 134.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 3.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, May 25, 1858.*

WITH reference to Mr. Paget's despatch of the 26th of October, 1857,\* addressed to Lord Clarendon, inclosing the sentence passed upon the captain and crew of the Portuguese schooner "*Locomotora*," for participation in an attempted slave-trading voyage, I have now the honour of acquainting your Lordship with the result of the indictment against Bernardo José Machado, an Oporto merchant, and the consignee of the said vessel, as involved in the same transaction.

This gentleman having been brought to trial upon the charge of being directly implicated in a slave-trading transaction, was sentenced to imprisonment, and was not admitted to bail, his offence being classed under the head of piracy. This judgment having been confirmed by the Lisbon Court of Appeal ("*Relação*"), he appealed from it to the Supreme Tribunal of Justice, which latter Court, in a decision dated 3rd of March last, reversed the judgment of the Court of Appeal, upon the grounds that the offence was not to be classed with that of the actual perpetration of the act of slave-trading, but only with that of preparatory acts, and, as such, classed with the offence of contraband, which is, by law, admissible to bail: a revisal of the judgment is therefore ordered, and the party concerned has been admitted to bail.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 135.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 5.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, May 31, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th instant, I have the honour of inclosing herewith a translation of the judgment of the Supreme Tribunal of Justice of the 13th ultimo, published in the "*Diario do Governo*" of the 28th instant, annulling the decision of the Court of *Relação* of Lisbon, by which the sentence pronounced upon the slave-trader Don Benito Derizans by the Tribunal at Loanda was reversed, and directing the cause to be sent to the Court of *Relação* of the judicial district of the Provinces of Angola, St. Thomas, and Prince, in order that the law may be there carried out.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 135.

*Judgment.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS the Council of the Supreme Tribunal of Justice have agreed, that, without entering into the question of the classification of the offence, and considering only the application of the amnesty, the decision, folio 109, applying the amnesty of the 20th of October, 1855, to an offence committed on the 18th of February, 1856, and against which judicial proceedings were only subsequently taken, has not only gone against the spirit and letter of the said amnesty, but also against the express provision of Article 120 of the Penal Code; therefore the said decision, folio 109, is hereby declared to be null, and the cause is ordered to be sent to the *Relação* of the judicial district of the Provinces of Angola, and St. Thomas, and Prince, that the law may be there carried out.

*Lisbon, April 13, 1858.*

(Signed)

VELLEZ CALDEIRA.  
 FERRAO.  
 GRADE.  
 AGUIAR.  
 FERRAZ.  
 VIEIRA DA MOTTA.  
 GUIMARAENS, *Secretary.*



No. 136.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 14.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, June 7, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatches of the 19th of December, 1856, and of the 26th of January last, to the Earl of Clarendon,\* relative to the abolition, in the Province of Angola, of the forced labour termed "service of carriers," formerly exacted from the free negroes, and to the prohibition of the use of that term, I have the honour of inclosing a translation of a Portaria, issued on the 12th ultimo by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, and published in the "Diario de Governo" of the 5th instant, directing the Governor-General of the above-named province to institute an inquiry into the accusations brought by a journal of this capital against the Chief of the district of Ambaca of continuing to put that service in force, notwithstanding the express stipulations of the Royal Decree of the 3rd of November, 1856, to take immediate measures to secure to the inhabitants of that district and of all others the enjoyment of the benefits guaranteed to them by that Decree, and to cause any public functionary who shall fail to carry out its provisions to be severely punished according to the existing laws.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

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 Inclosure in No. 136.
*Portaria.*

(Translation.)

THE "Nação," a newspaper of this capital, having published, in its number of the 8th of April last, a correspondence accompanied by documents by which it would appear that, in some of the districts of the province of Angola, the abusive practice is still kept up of forcing the free natives to perform the service there denominated as "de carregadores" (carriers), notwithstanding the express provisions of the Decree of the 3rd November, 1856, which prohibit and abolish such practice: His Majesty the King, therefore, commands that the Marine and Colonial Department transmit to the Governor-General of the said province a copy of that newspaper, in order that he may call upon the Chief of the district of Ambaca, against whom accusations are brought forward, and report upon the subject of the said correspondence, taking at once the requisite measures for securing to the inhabitants of that district, and of all others, the enjoyment of the benefits accorded to them by the above-mentioned Decree, and of which, previous to the publication of it, they were defrauded, notwithstanding that in virtue of the constitution of the monarchy all Portuguese subjects, without distinction of colour, of race, or of birthplace, have equal rights.

His Majesty further commands that the said Governor-General shall cause to be severely punished, in accordance with the existing laws, any public servant who, through an interested motive, or through neglect, shall fail to comply with the prescriptions of the said Decree of the 3rd November, 1856, the full observance of which is hereby again enjoined.

And inasmuch as the complaints of the traders, of the losses which they allege through the want of means of conveyance for their goods and merchandize, as well as through the plunder and abandonment of the same by the negroes in the interior of the province, also merit attention, His Majesty commands that the Governor-General shall endeavour, without delay, to carry out the Portarias relative to this subject, which were issued to him under date of 9th April last.

*Palace, May 12, 1858.*

(Signed)

SA DA BANDEIRA.

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 No. 137.
*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 14.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, June 7, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of transmitting herewith a translation of a Portaria issued on the 31st ultimo, by Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, to the Governor-General of Mozambique, and published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 5th instant, declaring that His Majesty the King had approved of the Portaria of his predecessor confirming the act

\* Class B, presented 1857, No. 414; and Class B, presented 1858, No. 294.

of the ex-Governor of Quillimane, which restored to liberty more than 200 negro-settlers of the place of Licungo, who had been sentenced by the Superintendent of the Decisions of the Caffres to be reduced to a state of slavery, as a consequence of the Chief of those settlers having sold the liberty of his own person to another individual.

The same Portaria enjoins upon the Governor-General not only to employ all the means at his disposal in order to carry out existing regulations, but likewise to require of the Board of Guardians of Slaves and Liberated Negroes, the execution of the obligation devolving upon them to assert the liberty of all individuals who, like the settlers of Licungo, may have been improperly reduced to slavery.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 137.

*Portaria.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS His Majesty the King having seen the Portaria, dated 7th July, 1853, from the then Acting Governor-General of the province of Mozambique, Joaquim Pinto de Magalhães, confirming the act of the ex-Governor of Quillimane, Onofre Lourenço de Andrade, which restored to liberty more than 200 negro settlers of Licungo, who had been sentenced to a state of slavery by the Superintendent of the Decisions of the Caffres, Hyppolito José de Mello, in consequence of the Chief of these settlers having sold his personal liberty to another individual; and considering the practice in use among almost all the negro tribes of Africa, of individuals, under certain circumstances, selling their own persons, and the persons of those subject to them, or forming a part of their families, to be absurd, and contrary to the principles of justice in force among civilized nations; and as it is not enough that the barbarous usages of the Caffres in this respect shall have been expressly abolished in the Portuguese dominions by Article 13 of the Decree of 22nd of December, 1854, which abolished the institution of slavery on the Crown lands on the province of Mozambique; but it is further necessary for the ends of justice to do away entirely with all vestige of such practices, His Majesty, through the Marine and Colonial Office, causes to be signified to the present Governor of that province his approval of the said Portaria of his predecessor, and further commands him not only to use all his endeavours to carry fully into effect the provisions of Article 13 of said Decree, but also to exact from the Board of Guardians of Slaves and Liberated Negroes the punctual performance of the duty incumbent on them by virtue of Article 16, section 4, of the Decree of the 14th December, 1854, viz., that of asserting the liberty of all individuals who, like unto the settlers of Licungo, or in any other manner, may have been illegally reduced to slavery.

Palace, May 31, 1858.

(Signed)

SA DA BANDEIRA.

No. 138.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 6, 1858.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 7th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government learn with satisfaction the orders which have been issued by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira as published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 5th of June, for the purpose of securing to the free negroes in Angola the benefits guaranteed to them by the Decree of the 3rd of November, 1856, by which they were exempted from the forced labour formerly exacted from them under the denomination of "serviço de carregadores."

I am, &c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

No. 139.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 23.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, August 13, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of inclosing a translation of a Portaria addressed on the 26th ultimo by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira to the Governor-General of the Cape de Verde

Islands, and published in the "Diario do Governo" of yesterday, directing him, for the reasons therein adduced, to issue the necessary orders that in no case any passports should be delivered for the transfer of slaves to the Islands of St. Anthony and St. Nicholas, but, on the contrary, to facilitate the transfer of any slaves existing there to any other of the islands of the Archipelago of the Cape de Verdes where there may still be slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 139.

*Portaria.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS there are now existing in the Islands of Santo Antão and of São Nicolau a very small number of slaves, and there being in the same islands a sufficient number of free people for the requirements of agricultural and industrial labours to allow of the extinction, within a short period, of the condition of slavery in the said islands, His Majesty the King has been pleased to command, through the Marine and Colonial Department, that the Governor-General of the province of Cape Verdes shall issue the necessary orders to the effect that in no case shall any passports be given for the transfer of slaves to either of those two islands; but, on the contrary, to facilitate the transfer of any slaves existing there to any other of the islands of the Archipelago of the Cape de Verdes where there may still be slaves.

Palace, July 26, 1858.

(Signed) SA DA BANDEIRA.

No. 140.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 4.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, August 20, 1858.*

THE Governor of the province of St. Thomas and Prince having represented the necessity of assistance from the Government, so as to prevent the importation of slaves into those islands, the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira has issued a *Portaria*, dated the 2nd ultimo, and recently published, directing the transmission to the Commander of the Portuguese naval station on the West Coast of Africa, of orders that a vessel belonging to it should visit the said islands as often as possible, in order to prevent the Slave Trade as much as feasible, whether by cruising on their coasts, or by rendering any other service that may be required by the Governor.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 141.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 6, 1858.*

WITH reference to Lord Clarendon's despatches of the 4th and 5th of January last,\* I have to acquaint you that the "*Minnetonka*," the vessel which was suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and with which the Commander of the Portuguese war-schooner "*Zambesi*" was in communication at Inhambane in the summer of last year, has recently been captured by one of Her Majesty's cruisers on the West Coast of Africa, fully equipped for the Slave Trade. And I have further to inform you that the master who was in charge of the "*Minnetonka*" when she was captured, has acknowledged that he acted as mate of that vessel on her voyage last year, when she shipped a cargo of slaves in the Mozambique Channel which were afterwards safely landed in Cuba.

You will communicate these facts to the Portuguese Government with reference to the proceedings of the Commander of the "*Zambesi*" on the occasion in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 142.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury. — (Received September 15.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, September 1, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of a Royal Decree of the 28th ultimo, published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 31st of the same month, imposing a tax upon every registered slave of value, whether male or female, between the ages of fifteen and sixty years, in the transmarine provinces of Portugal; the object assigned for this measure being the urgency of making those provinces meet their expenses out of their own resources.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

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 Inclosure in No. 142.
*Decree.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS it is of the greatest necessity to provide for the expenditure of the Transmarine Provinces out of their own resources, and as the Bill laid before the Chamber of Deputies on the 12th of June of last year, for establishing in those provinces a tax upon each registered slave of value, was not converted into law; conforming with the report of the Colonial Board of the 9th of June of that year, I am pleased, in the exercise of the authorisation conferred by Section 1, Article 15 of the Additional Act to the Constitutional Charter of the Monarchy, and having heard the Council of Ministers, to decree the following:—

Article 1. A tax is hereby established in the Transmarine Provinces upon each registered slave of value, whether of the male or female sex, and between the ages of fifteen and sixty years.

Sect. 1. In the State of India, and in the provinces of Cape Verd, St. Thomas and Prince, and of Angola, this tax will be 400 reis (about 1s. 10d.) for slaves of the male sex, and 200 reis for slaves of the female sex.

Sect. 2. In the Province of Mozambique, and in the Islands of Timor and Solor, this same tax shall be 200 reis for slaves of the male sex, and 100 reis for those of the female sex.

Art. 2. The Governors of the above-mentioned provinces, in concurrence with the respective Financial Boards, will take such measures as may be required for collecting the tax established by the present Decree.

Art. 3. All legislative enactments to the contrary are hereby revoked.

The Minister of Marine and Colonies shall have thus understood it, and shall cause it to be carried out.

*Palace, August 28, 1858.*

(Signed)

KING.

(Countersigned)

VISCOUNT SA DA BANDEIRA.

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 No. 143.
*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury. — (Received September 24.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, September 18, 1858.*

INCLOSED I have the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a copy of the note which I addressed to the Marquis de Loulé, under date of the 15th instant, communicating to his Excellency, in compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 6th instant, the circumstances of the recent capture, by one of Her Majesty's cruizers on the West Coast of Africa, of the slaver "Minnetonka," with which the Commander of the Portuguese war-schooner "Zambesi" was in communication at Inhambane in the summer of last year.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 143.

*Mr. Howard to the Marquis de Loulé.*

M. le Ministre,

*Lisbon, September 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to that part of my note of the 16th of January last to your Excellency, which refers to the proceedings of the Commander of the Portuguese schooner of war "Zambesi," in the case of the vessel under American colours, the "Minnetonka," which was suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, and with which he was in communication at Inhambane in the summer of 1857, I have the honour, in compliance with the instructions which I have received from the Earl of Malmesbury, to acquaint your Excellency that the "Minnetonka" has recently been captured by one of Her Majesty's cruisers on the West Coast of Africa fully equipped for the Slave Trade, and that the master, who was in charge of the "Minnetonka" when she was captured, has acknowledged that he acted as mate of that vessel on her voyage last year, when she shipped a cargo of slaves in the Mozambique Channel, which were afterwards safely landed in Cuba.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 144.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 3.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, September 22, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 18th instant, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a note, dated the 20th instant, from the Marquis de Loulé acknowledging the receipt of that of the 15th instant, in which I communicated to his Excellency the recent capture of the slaver "Minnetonka" by one of Her Majesty's cruisers on the West Coast of Africa, thanking me for that communication, and acquainting me with its transmission by him to the Minister of Marine for the proper objects.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 146.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 8, 1858.*

WITH reference to Mr. Paget's despatch of the 17th of November last, stating that Senhor José Julio Rodriguez, Judge of the Court of Appeal at Loanda, had been appointed Commissioner in the Mixed Commission at that place, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,\* inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between him and Mr. Rodriguez, in consequence of that gentleman having declined to accede to the proposal of Mr. Gabriel that he should renew the oath of office prescribed by Article I of Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842.

I have to instruct you to acquaint the Portuguese Government that the view taken of this matter by Mr. Gabriel appears to Her Majesty's Government to be correct, and that, as the acts of Senhor Rodriguez, in the character of Portuguese Commissioner, have hitherto been ministerial only, and not judicial, no inconvenience can arise from following the more regular course suggested by Mr. Gabriel, while, on the other hand, it would be very inconvenient if judicial acts of the Portuguese Commissioner hereafter should be called in question in consequence of his not having renewed the oath of office on his actual appointment to that post.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY

No. 147.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 8, 3.30 P.M.)*

(Telegraphic.)

*Lisbon, October 8, 1858, 8 A.M.*

I AM informed by the French Minister that the French men-of-war have not come here to employ force, but that he will ultimately be obliged to withdraw from this Court if the Portuguese Government do not yield.

No. 148.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Foreign Office, October 9, 1858.*

THE good offices of Her Majesty's Government will gladly be given to prevent a collision between France and Portugal, but they have no decisive information on case of the ship. The Portuguese Government had better drop the prosecution, if there were informalities during or after the seizure.

No. 149.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 14.)*

(Extract.)

*Lisbon, October 8, 1858.*

IN a private conversation which I had with the French Minister on the 6th instant, he stated that he understood that it was in consequence of my advice that the Portuguese Government had refused to agree to the demands of his Government in the affair of the "Charles et Georges;" and he intimated his opinion that, in giving that advice, I had done the Portuguese a bad service.

I replied to the Marquis de Lisle that he had been completely misinformed; that my opinion had neither been asked by the Portuguese Government, nor had I given it; that if I had been asked by them whether they should yield at once, I should have declined giving my opinion; but that I should certainly never have volunteered an opinion that they ought to incur the humiliation of yielding without the threat or the demonstration of the employment of force: and I added that he well knew that the Portuguese were weak, and quite unable to resist France.

I observed, however, that I did not say that, if the Portuguese Government were to ask my opinion concerning a proposal of mediation to be made by them to France, in conformity with the principle recorded in the 23rd Protocol of the Conference of Paris of 1856, I should not express my approval of such a proposal.

The Marquis de Lisle observed to me, on a former occasion, that it had been stated that there was a British man-of-war at Mozambique at the period when the "Charles et Georges" was apprehended, and that Her Majesty's Consul had availed himself of her presence to press upon the Portuguese authorities there the extreme measures which had been adopted against that vessel.

I told M. de Lisle at the time, and repeated to him again yesterday more fully, that, having the reports of Mr. McLeod, and of Captain Lyster, of Her Majesty's ship "Castor," in my possession, I was enabled to state that it was true that Mr. McLeod had announced to the Governor-General of Mozambique that he had received intelligence that a vessel (which afterwards turned out to be the "Charles et Georges") was at anchor in Conducia Bay, within a couple of miles of his own residence, and that there was reason to suspect she was shipping slaves; but that at this point Mr. McLeod's action appeared to have ceased, because he had stated, in a despatch to Her Majesty's Foreign Department, dated the 1st of January, 1858, that he would transmit the details of the affair as soon as he learnt them from the Governor-General.

I observed, with regard to Captain Lyster, that, in explaining to the Governor-General of Mozambique, at an interview which he had with him on the 3rd December, 1857, the anxiety of Admiral Sir Frederick Grey to co-operate with him in any measure for the suppression of the Slave Trade which the existing Treaties between Great Britain and foreign Powers would admit, he had distinctly stated that Sir Frederick had no power to interfere with French vessels procuring labourers for Bourbon.

I added, that it did not, however, appear that the Governor-General had made any

request for Captain Lyster's assistance. Indeed, I yesterday read to the Marquis de Lisle that part of Captain Lyster's despatch of the 24th December, 1857, to Sir Frederick Grey (a copy of which was inclosed to me in the Earl of Clarendon's despatch of the 16th of February last), in which he reports his interview with the Governor-General.

The French Minister expressed himself, on both points, perfectly satisfied with my statements.

I dare say that he only pretended to have received information that I had advised the Portuguese Government not to yield, in order to ascertain the fact; but I, nevertheless, thought it best to speak openly to him.

No. 150.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury,—(Received October 14.)*

(Extract.)

*Lisbon, October 8, 1858.*

THE two French men-of-war, whose arrival here on the 3rd instant I had the honour of reporting to your Lordship, are the line-of-battle ships "Donawerth," bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Lavaud, and the "Austerlitz."

Previously to writing my despatch, I called upon the French Minister, the Marquis de Lisle, with the view to ascertain the motives of the sending of these ships to Lisbon, of whose intended arrival, however, as well as of that of others, in the affair of the French vessel the "Charles et Georges," condemned as a slayer at Mozambique, I had been told a couple of days before.

In the conversation which I had with the Marquis de Lisle on this occasion, although he observed jocosely that these ships had not arrived to bombard Lisbon, and stated (as the ostensible reason of their coming) that, being on their way from Toulon to Brest, they had entered this port for the purpose of coaling, yet he fully admitted that they had been sent here to support the demands of the French Government in the case of the "Charles et Georges," and said that he likewise expected others, and, amongst them, the "Redoutable," a line-of-battle ship, I believe, of the first class.

He added the information (also contained in my above-mentioned telegram) that he had received a telegraphic despatch of the 2nd instant from Count Walewski, informing him that the affair of the "Charles et Georges" was to be submitted to a new examination: by which he understood that it was to be brought before the French Council of State, and that ulterior instructions would be sent to him.

The Marquis said that he expected these instructions by the "Coligny," steamer of war, and that, in the meantime, neither he nor Rear-Admiral Lavaud had any instructions to act.

He remarked, as a proof that the ships had not come with hostile designs, that he was just going to call upon the Marquis de Loulé in order to introduce the Admiral to him, and to ask an audience of the King for the latter.

M. de Lisle, nevertheless, spoke very warmly on the subject of the "Charles et Georges," stating the impossibility of the French Government admitting the right of the Portuguese Government to capture and condemn a vessel duly provided with papers which proved the commission she had received from the French Government, and having a delegate of that Government on board, or of their consenting to give up their demands for the immediate restitution of the vessel and the liberation of the captain.

I took an opportunity, during this conversation, of expressing to the Marquis my hope that if the Portuguese Government were to propose to the French Government to submit the affair to the mediation of a friendly Power, in conformity with the principle recorded in Protocol 23 of the Conferences of Paris, of the 14th April, 1856, the French Government would not reject that proposal; and I said that I thought they would be the less justified in declining it, as it was on the invitation of France, communicated by himself, as well as of England and other Powers, that Portugal had acceded to that principle.

The Marquis replied that he had no knowledge of the views of his Government on this point; but that I would recollect that the different Powers had reserved to themselves, in this matter, their independence and liberty of action; that Portugal had done so also; and that he was of opinion it would not do for France to admit the intervention of another Power in a question which affected the protection of French subjects from insult.

With regard to the mediation, I reminded the Marquis de Lisle that although in the affair of the indemnity claimed by us of the Neapolitan Government, for the British

engineers of the "Cagliari," we considered that we should, if they persisted, after so protracted a negotiation, in refusing our demands, be justified in enforcing a compliance with them, yet we had, nevertheless, as a practical proof of our moderation, offered to refer the case to the mediation of a friendly Power; and I said I thought the French Government might well do the same in the case of the "Charles et Georges." The Marquis, however, repeated his opinion that he did not think France could accept a mediation with regard to it.

On the morning of the 5th instant I saw the Marquis de Loulé, and learnt from him that he had written to Baron Paiva, the Portuguese Minister at Paris, by the French steamer to Nantes, of the 4th instant, directing him contingently to make to the French Government the proposal of a mediation in the affair of the "Charles et Georges."

I remarked to the Marquis de Loulé, as his despatch to Baron Paiva could not reach Paris before the 8th or 9th instant, and as time was valuable in this matter (for the decision of the French Government as to their ulterior course might be taken before that period), that, having decided to propose a mediation if the French Government were not satisfied with the explanations given by the Portuguese Government, he would do well to send a telegram to the same effect, immediately, to Baron Paiva. The Marquis approved of this idea, and said he would act upon it. The Viscount de Sá, whom I afterwards saw, and who has recently been seriously ill, likewise expressed his approval of it, the more so, as he had been from the first of opinion that the Portuguese Government should, in offering their explanations, at once propose to submit the question to a mediation, if those explanations were not accepted as satisfactory. I may observe, that when the Marquis de Loulé showed me his note to M. de Lisle of the 18th of September, I remarked upon there being no mention in it of a mediation, which he had told me he thought of proposing; and that he replied, it had been deemed more advisable to reserve such a proposal for a later period of the negotiation.

On the following morning, the 6th instant, the Marquis de Loulé told me that he had directed the transmission of his telegraphic despatch to Baron Paiva, but that it had not been possible to forward it till the evening of the 5th instant; but later in the day he informed me that he found that it had not been able to be sent, because the Portuguese Foreign Office had no cypher in use with their mission at Paris, or even at London, and he asked me what I thought could be done.

I replied, that I would undertake to transmit to Lord Cowley, in cypher, any message he wished delivered to Baron Paiva, and he, accordingly, wrote down the minute of a message, which I forwarded to his Lordship.

It is now necessary that I should mention the following circumstance, which occurred on the 5th instant, and which became a subject of remark in the newspapers and amongst the public:—

When the King of Portugal proceeded in his barge, with the Royal standard flying, to the steam-corvette "Bartholomeu Dias," to take leave of his brother, the Duke of Oporto, who was proceeding in command of her to Madeira, the French men-of-war did not salute His Majesty on his passage, as is the custom of this port, nor did they do so when the Royal standard was afterwards hoisted on the corvette, although His Majesty was saluted by Portuguese men-of-war.

This omission was displeasing to His Majesty, who, in fixing the 7th instant for receiving the French Admiral, requested the Marquis de Loulé to obtain some explanation of it.

The Marquis de Loulé accordingly waited upon the French Minister, for the purpose of communicating with him on the subject of the Admiral's audience, but before he had time to refer to the question of the neglected salute, the Marquis de Lisle expressed to him his great regret at the omission, saying that the Admiral was not on board at the time; that the officers who were left in charge of the ships had not perceived His Majesty on his passage; that afterwards they thought it was too late; that they had been deceived by the circumstance of a Portuguese brig-of-war near them (which is not, however, in commission), not having saluted, and that the Admiral would himself, at his audience of the King, make his excuses to His Majesty.

The Marquis de Loulé observed, that the King had noticed the omission, and had been somewhat displeased at it; but that he, the Marquis, had stated that he was sure it was a mistake, for that the demand of an audience on the part of the Admiral could not be reconciled with the offer of any slight on his part.

I afterwards met the Marquis de Lisle, who made the same observation to me, to which I replied, that I had also marked the omission, but that I had felt convinced that it was the result of a misunderstanding.

During the Marquis de Loulé's visit to the Marquis de Lisle, the latter took occasion



to state, that the French ships of war had not come here to employ force in the affair of the "Charles et Georges," nor to seize that vessel, but that they were on their way from Toulon to Brest, and entered this port to take in coal; and then said to the Marquis de Loulé that he would tell him at once the end of the affair ("dénouement de l'affaire"), which would be, that if the Portuguese Government did not yield to the demands of the French Government, he (the Marquis de Lisle) would have to leave Lisbon.

The French Minister afterwards pressed the Marquis de Loulé to acquiesce in those demands, but begged him not to talk to him of mediation, and at all events, if he intended offering one, not to make the proposal through him, but through the Portuguese Minister at Paris.

The Marquis de Lisle held to me, a few hours later, precisely the same language in respect to the French ships of war not having come with hostile intentions, and to his withdrawal, in case of Portugal not yielding.

The Marquis de Loulé, in relating to one of my colleagues what M. de Lisle had said to him on the subject, stated it to be that, "without prejudging the future, the French ships would leave the Tagus, as they had entered it—as good friends."

I observed on the occasion to which I allude that the French Minister's language was much more moderate than it was a few days ago, and several of my colleagues have made the same remark. Of course, the circumstance that the French men-of-war may now leave the Tagus as friends does not imply that they may not return to it in a different character at another period, should a rupture of diplomatic relations take place between France and Portugal.

I may add, that the conduct pursued by the French Government in sending a squadron here to intimidate the Portuguese Government, before even the answer of the latter had been taken into consideration, is very generally blamed by the foreign diplomats here, and more particularly by the Representatives of the weaker Powers.

The captain of the "Charles et Georges" continues at liberty, that is to say, he is permitted to come on shore from his ship, notwithstanding that the French Minister, who had pledged his word for him until the 1st of October, when the Court of Relação was to meet, withdrew it at that date.

The Marquis de Loulé told me that he had reason to believe that the captain's liberty would not be interfered with, pending the decision of his appeal to that Court. His Excellency said he was likewise endeavouring to hasten the legal proceedings in the affair.

No. 151.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

*Achnacarry, October 15, 1858.*

HER Majesty's Government have read with much concern your despatches referring to the dispute between France and Portugal, and cannot but regret that the French Government, without first attempting to obtain their object by diplomatic means, have at once sent an imposing force to menace the port of Lisbon.

As far as they are at present informed, it appears to Her Majesty's Government that, on the one hand, the French captain and delegate on board the "Charles et Georges" violated the municipal laws of Portugal by anchoring at a forbidden point within Portuguese waters, and being there found with a cargo of negroes, who had all the appearance of being slaves, and who stated themselves to have been abducted from a dependency of Portugal; on the other hand, that the French captain and delegate had obtained from the Sheik of Matabane a permission to engage and export labourers of his tribe; and that in a document (which is published in the "Daily News" of the 12th instant) the contract declares itself "to have been made and passed at the Court of the said Sheik." The document runs thus:

"It is agreed and understood that you hire yourself for five years to go to the Isle of Bourbon, in the ship \_\_\_\_\_, Captain \_\_\_\_\_ You are hired at the rate of two piastres per month during the whole period of your engagement.

"As soon as the engagement shall be terminated, you will be free, either to remain in Bourbon, or to return to your country. The present contract is made and passed at the Court of the Sheik of the Matabane tribe, in the presence of the Sheik Ali, of the Agents Ali Mouro, Sidi Sidi, the interpreter of the ship, and the captain, and signed by witnesses in the presence of the above-hired labourers, after having been read by the interpreter."

You are aware that Her Majesty's Government have never altered their opinion as to

the analogous nature of the French scheme for exporting negroes with that of avowed Slave Trade. It is not, however, with a view to support that opinion, fortified by the present case, that I address you, but in the hope that a suggestion may be accepted which may solve this question of national honour.

If the above statement is correct it appears to Her Majesty's Government that Portugal, without any sacrifice of her dignity and rights, may admit that the French delegate and captain, when negotiating for labourers with the Sheik of Matabane, believed him to be an independent Chief, and were ignorant of his being a dependent subject of the Portuguese Government; for their contract speaks of him as of an independent Ruler, having a Court of his own. Should the Portuguese Government see the transaction in this light, it appears to Her Majesty's Government to be consistent with a wise indulgence to drop the prosecution of a case which originated in an error, and which might, if imprudently urged against France, be the cause of the gravest complications.

Such a course on the part of the Portuguese Government would be accompanied by a note distinctly recapitulating the details of the Municipal Law of Portugal on the Mozambique coast, and to what extent the Portuguese dependencies are claimed to extend.

You will take the earliest opportunity of expressing to the Portuguese Government the view which Her Majesty's Government take of this case, and urge upon them the policy and wisdom of accepting the advice which I have the honour to tender through Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Lisbon.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 152.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

(Telegraphic.)

*Lisbon, October 14, 1858, 7 A.M.*

IT appears that the French Delegate, on board the vessel, deposed at Mozambique, and said he would report the fact to the Government of Bourbon, that the conditions prescribed by the French Government had not been observed in respect to the negroes bought by the captain on Portuguese territory.

No. 153.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 24.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, October 15, 1858.*

HEREWITH I have the honour of transmitting a copy of a note which I this day addressed to the Marquis de Loulé, communicating to him, in execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 8th instant, a copy of Mr. Gabriel's despatch of the 30th of May last, and of its inclosures, relative to the refusal of Senhor Rodriguez, the Portuguese Commissioner in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at Loanda, to accede to the proposal of Mr. Gabriel, that he should renew the oath of office prescribed by Article 1 of Annex B to the Treaty of the 23rd of July, 1842, and bringing under his Excellency's notice the views of Her Majesty's Government on that refusal as stated by your Lordship.

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

Inclosure in No. 153.

*Mr. Howard to the Marquis de Loulé.*

M. le Ministre,

*Lisbon, October 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's note of November 10, 1857, to Mr. Paget, announcing the appointment of Senhor José Julio Rodriguez, Judge of the Court of

Relação at Loanda, to be His Most Faithful Majesty's Commissioner in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established in that city, I have the honour, in execution of the instructions which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, of communicating herewith to your Excellency a copy of a despatch of the 30th May last from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner, to the Earl of Malmesbury, as well as of the copies therein inclosed, of a correspondence which has passed between him and Senhor Rodriguez, in consequence of that gentleman having declined to accede to the proposal of Mr. Gabriel that he should renew the oath of office prescribed by Article 1 of Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd July, 1842, between Great Britain and Portugal, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

In making this communication to your Excellency, I am instructed by Lord Malmesbury to acquaint your Excellency that the view taken by Mr. Gabriel, viz., that Senhor Rodriguez should now, on his formal appointment as His Most Faithful Majesty's Commissioner, renew his oath, because, when he took his first oath in December 1856, his nomination had not taken place in conformity with the stipulations of the said Treaty, appears to Her Majesty's Government to be correct; and that as the acts of Senhor Rodriguez, in the character of Portuguese Commissioner, have hitherto been ministerial only and not judicial, no inconvenience can arise from following the more regular course suggested by Mr. Gabriel, while on the other hand it would be very inconvenient if judicial acts of the Portuguese Commissioner hereafter should be called in question in consequence of his not having renewed the oath of office on his actual appointment to that post.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 154.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 24.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, October 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to the subject of my despatch of the 7th of June last, I have the honour of transmitting herewith a translated abstract of a Portaria addressed, on the 22nd ultimo, by Viscount de Sá da Bandeira to the Governor-General of Angola, and published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 4th instant, in answer to his representations concerning the difficulties he had experienced in the execution of the Royal Decree of the 3rd of November, 1856, which abolishes the compulsory service of carriers, in consequence of the inveterate reluctance on the part of the blacks to labour and act as carriers, and which he affirmed could not be overcome without compulsion, and respecting the serious evils which resulted from this cause to the Province, in the absence of other means for transporting the produce from the interior to the seaports.

The Viscount de Sá, in the commencement of this Portaria, rebuts the general assertion that the blacks always try to avoid labour, and recommends the adoption of gentle and indirect means, in order to encourage the propensity shown by the natives in some districts for engaging in agricultural pursuits, and to overcome the repugnance evinced by the inhabitants of other districts to labour, whether as farmers or carriers.

His Excellency further points out various measures which should be taken to supply the want of carriers, such as the improvement of communications by the construction of roads, the formation of caravans, and the organization of a system of transport by carts between different localities.

With reference to the hopes which appear to be entertained of a return to the former abusive state of things, his Excellency observes that it is necessary entirely to dissipate such hopes, and to eradicate the idea that the white population of the Portuguese African colonies have a right to the labour of the natives without giving them due remuneration; moreover, that the authorities are bound firmly to uphold the principle of the Constitutional Charter of the Monarchy, which guarantees to every Portuguese subject, whatever may be his birth-place, race, or colour, the right of remuneration for his services.

In concluding, the Viscount de Sá states that the King authorizes the Governor-General to adopt and publish such measures upon this subject as he may deem necessary, keeping in view the heads of this Portaria.

I should observe that the Viscount de Sá has been much pressed by petitions from interested parties, such as Commercial Associations, and others, to modify the above-mentioned Decree of November, 1856; and that his persistence in upholding its humane

principles affords a new proof, although no such fresh proof is necessary, how consistent and persevering a friend and protector he is of the black race.

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

Inclosure in No. 154.

*Translated Abstract of Portaria, dated September 22, 1858.*

VARIOUS despatches of the Governor-General of the Province of Angola having been laid before the King, in which he states the difficulties which he has experienced in the execution of the Decree of 3rd November, 1856, which abolishes the compulsory labour of carriers—difficulties which he, the Governor-General attributes to an inveterate reluctance on the part of the blacks to labour, and which he affirms cannot be overcome without compulsion, having already led to a sensible defalcation in the supply of goods from the interior; and he requests that His Majesty's Government will take effectual measures, and come to a decision upon this question; stating, at the same time, that the country cannot dispense with the service of the blacks as carriers, and that, if left to their natural indolence, the collection of the increased tax ("dizimo") will be found impossible, as it has already given rise to a certain amount of emigration to the interior, where taxation does not exist.

The subject of the above-mentioned despatches has suggested the following considerations:—

1. In reviewing what has taken place in the Province of Angola, since the publication of the Decree of 3rd November, 1856, it appears that the repugnance of the blacks to the service of carriers is more strongly shown in the central districts, viz., Golungo Alto, Ambaca, and Pungo Andongo, where formerly they were compelled to do such service, and where the oppression and extortion consequent upon it was most severely felt by them, occasioning at times extensive emigration from the Portuguese territories to those of independent Chiefs, and producing the almost entire depopulation of some districts, as is attested by official documents of former Captains-General and Governors.

The case, however, is different in other districts where the said service was not compulsory, even previously to the publication of the Decree of 3rd November, 1856, as in Benguella and the adjoining country, where, since 1796, it has been expressly prohibited to compel the natives to carry merchandize; in the district of Duque de Braganza, where, by the Annexation Act in the year 1838, it was stipulated that the several Chiefs should not be obliged to furnish blacks for that service; and in the vast territories of Talla Mugongo, where, by the Regulation given to the Chief in 1854, he was expressly prohibited from furnishing carriers. The same occurs in the territories of Bembe and of Ambriz, where there is a similar exemption, and where it is not necessary to compel the blacks to carry merchandize, as they make no objection to the performance of the service by agreement.

A considerable traffic is still carried on now, as previously to the publication of the Decree, between the city of Benguella and the interior, as is seen by the trade returns published in the "Boletim" of the 1st May of this year, wherein the exportation effected through the Loanda Custom-house, in the month of February, amounts to 41,388 milreis 700 reis, and the exportation through the Benguella Custom-house, in January, to 51,161 milreis 561 reis, showing a difference of 9,772 milreis 861 reis in favour of Benguella.

2. Other facts go to prove that the labour of the blacks is not always the effect of compulsion, for in the said "Boletim" it is stated that the blacks of the district of Casengo are more laborious than any others, tilling the land on their own account, or on account of the landowners, and that the natives of Golungo Alto are beginning to apply themselves to the growth of cotton; and in the district of Don Pedro V (Bembe) they are encouraged in their industry by the greater consumption caused by the strong garrison of the place. The Governor of this district writes, on the 31st December, 1857, that the construction of the road might be greatly advanced, as native labourers could be procured in any number for a daily payment of 100 coral beads, equivalent to about 80 reis of Portugal, per day.

Therefore, the general assertion that the blacks always try to evade labour is not sufficiently well founded.

3. It will be expedient, then, that the propensity shown by the natives of the last-  
CLASS B.

mentioned districts for engaging in agricultural pursuits, should be encouraged and developed by gentle and indirect means, and that the same means be made use of to overcome the repugnance which the inhabitants of other districts appear to entertain to labour, whether as farmers or as carriers. This was the object aimed at in the promulgation of the Decree of the 3rd November, 1856, which enacts the increase of the tax upon each habitation, improperly denominated "dizimo," and which may still be considered moderate, being under the maximum of 1 milreis 100 reis on each hearth, while the blacks of the Colony of Natal, who are not more advanced in civilization than those of Angola, pay 11s. per hut or hearth, equal to 2 milreis 475 reis; the increase of taxation being meant as an incentive to increased activity on the part of the natives.

4. Other means might also be employed indirectly to induce the native population to greater industry in their own benefit, viz. :—

(a.) To bind the Chiefs and head-men of the districts suitable to the growth of cotton to bring annually, on a certain day, to the chief city of the district, a stipulated number of pounds of cotton, in proportion with the number of inhabitants subordinate to them, this produce to be purchased by the Colonial Government at a fixed remunerative price.

(b.) To allow the natives to furnish other articles of produce, according to the localities, such as tobacco, rice, coffee, cattle, iron, copper, sulphur, &c., the equivalents to be drawn up in a schedule by the Financial Board.

(c.) To enact that the head of a household failing to bring the stipulated amount of cotton, or any other article, should be bound to work for the State on the roads, or in agricultural labour, to the amount of three times the value of his contribution, taking the day's wages at 100 reis.

(d.) To establish that such work may be ceded to private individuals for the equivalent in money, part to be given to the natives and part appropriated to roads.

(e.) To introduce by gentle means the use of European clothing; establishing that the Chiefs should be so clothed when present at interviews with the authorities, and that the slave-owners should dress their slaves, under penalty of fine.

(f.) To persuade the natives who can afford it to build houses in the European style to live in.

(g.) To promote the construction of roads, especially those leading to the ports.

(h.) To engage the parish priests and missionaries to inculcate the necessity of application to labour, and of dressing in European style.

5. These measures would go far towards creating necessities among the natives which could only be supplied by increased labour.

6. For the due supervision and execution of the above measures, it would be expedient to enlist the natives of the districts of Golungo Alto, Ambaca, and Pungo Andongo in war companies, for the ends mentioned below.

7. With a view to prevent the interruption of commerce in the interior, the following measures might be adopted :—

(a.) To endeavour to engage slave-owners to form themselves into companies for the service of carrying, employing their slaves in caravans to be organised as below.

(b.) To form caravans for the transport of cargoes, on account of the State, between the following places :—

(1.) From some port on the bank of the Lucalla to the town of Golungo Alto.

(2.) From a port of Lucalla to a place at Ambaca pointed out by the Governor-General.

(3.) From Cambambe or the Dondo on the banks of the Quanza to the town of Pungo Andongo.

(4.) From this town to Cassange, or to some place on the left bank of the River Quango.

To organize a system of transport by carts between Loanda and Calumbo, and promote the formation of roads from the ports of Lucalla to the towns of Golungo Alto and Ambaca, and from Cambambe or Dondo, to Pungo Andongo, and from thence to Cassange.

(c.) To regulate the service of these caravans by a scale, so that no individual shall be subject to more than six days' journey, nor carry more than 64 lbs. weight; their service to be justly remunerated, at the rate of 150 reis per day to each native: the employers to pay a further sum of 150 reis to the State for each native, to be applied to the expenses of the caravans and to roads.

(d.) To establish simultaneously the service of bullock-carts, so that the caravans may, in the course of time, be suppressed without injury to the trade.

(e.) To put matters in train for the intended establishment by the Government of steam-communication between Columbo and Cambambe and the ports of the Lucalla, and as far as Loanda when practicable.

8. This water-transport would be a great benefit, as it appears that it is in part carried on by small craft, and even thus effects a great economy.

9. The necessity for the above recommendations shows that although two years have elapsed since the promulgation of the Decree of the 3rd November, 1856, no effort has been made to avoid any interruption in the transport service with the interior, whereas the country can dispose of both men and cattle for such service, which would be a source of revenue to their owners, as is practised in India, and confirms the idea that a hope is entertained of returning to the former abusive state of things.

10. It is, therefore, necessary to dissipate completely such hopes, and to root out the idea that the white population of the Portuguese African colonies have a right to the labour of the natives without giving them due remuneration; the authorities being bound firmly to uphold the principle of the Constitutional Charter of the Monarchy, which guarantees to every Portuguese subject, whatsoever may be his birth-place, race, or colour, the right of remuneration for his services.

11. The State has, however, the power to exact temporary service from its African subjects under exceptional circumstances, and for the good of the State.

12. Any Chiefs who may give shelter to natives leaving their settlements to evade the payment of the tax must be obliged to give up the fugitives under penalty of fines.

His Majesty having taken into special consideration the said despatches of the Governor-General of Angola, hereby informs him that he is authorized to adopt and publish such measures upon this subject as he may deem necessary, keeping in view the heads of this Portaria, and His Majesty trusts that he, the Governor-General, will, as heretofore, zealously comply with the Royal wishes on a subject of so much interest, so as to obtain the beneficent ends of the Decree of the 3rd November, 1856, in favour of the natives, without serious injury to the internal trade and agriculture of the country, the increase and prosperity of which His Majesty much desires.

*Palace, September 22, 1858.*

(Signed)

SA DA BANDEIRA.

No. 155.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 24.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, October 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to the subject of my despatch of the 13th August last, I have the honour of transmitting herewith a translation of a Portaria, addressed by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, on the 29th ultimo, to the Governor-General of the Cape de Verd Islands, and published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 14th instant, directing him to endeavour to procure from the slave-owners in the Island of St. Nicholas the liberty of the few slaves remaining there, and if he should not succeed in doing so, to cause them to be manumitted out of the funds in the hands of the Board of Guardians of Slaves and Liberated Negroes.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 155.

*Portaria.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS it being known that, owing to the effects of the epidemic which has lately prevailed in the Province of Cape Verd, the number of slaves in the Island of St. Nicholas has been greatly reduced, His Majesty the King commands that through the Marine and Colonial Office, and in addition to the Portaria of the 26th July last, the Governor-General of the said province shall be instructed to try and induce the slave-owners to grant to the few slaves still remaining there their liberty, and should he not succeed in this, to cause them to be manumitted with the funds in the hands of the Board of Guardians of Slaves and Liberated Negroes, to which Board orders are this day issued for that purpose, the due notification to be made also by the said Governor: His Majesty

trusts to the zealous endeavours of the Governor-General to bring about within a short time the extinction, *de facto*, of slavery in that island, until such time as it is so by law.

Palace, September 29, 1858.

(Signed) SA DA BANDEIRA.

No. 156.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 9, 1858.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope,\* inclosing a Report upon the case of the Portuguese dhow "*Flor de Moçambique*," which vessel was captured and destroyed by Her Majesty's ship "*Lyra*," in the Mozambique Channel in the month of May last, on suspicion that she was engaged in the Slave Trade.

A copy of the sentence admitting the claim of the owners of the "*Flor de Moçambique*" to be compensated for the loss of their vessel, and the value of her cargo, but without costs or damages, is also inclosed.†

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 157.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1858.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 15th ultimo, I inclose for your information, and for communication to the Portuguese Government, if you should think it advisable to do so, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,‡ on the subject of the feeling which exists in the Province of Angola against the Decree of the Portuguese Government, dated the 3rd of November, 1856, abolishing the compulsory labour formerly exacted from the negroes under the title of "*serviço de carregadores*."

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 158.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 27.)*

(Extract.)

Lisbon, November 22, 1858.

IN execution of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch to me of the 6th instant, received on the 14th instant, I inquired of the Marquis de Loulé why, in the official statement relative to the case of the "*Charles et Georges*," published in the "*Diario do Governo*" of the 25th ultimo, no mention is made of the tender of the good offices of England, and I recapitulated what had passed between his Excellency and myself on that subject.

His Excellency assured me that it was not from any want of appreciation on the part of the Portuguese Government of the friendly conduct of Her Majesty's Government, that they had omitted to make such mention, but because they had thought it desirable to make their statement as concise as possible, and to confine themselves in it to referring to the principal points of their discussions with France.

His Excellency readily confirmed the statements contained in my communications to him, namely, that Her Majesty's Government had offered their good offices before they

\* Class A, No. 45.

† Ibid., Inclosure 6 in No. 45.

‡ Ibid., No. 88.

had even been requested by Portugal; that the only request for assistance which had been made by the Portuguese Government of Her Majesty's Government was for their good offices, in order to bring about an amicable settlement of the question, and that he had charged me to convey to your Lordship the thanks of the Portuguese Government for the tender and for the employment of the good offices of Her Majesty's Government, and likewise to Earl Cowley for his exertions to induce the French Government to consent to a mediation of the dispute.

No. 159.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 5.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, November 27, 1858.*

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 16th instant, inclosing to me a copy of a despatch of the 31st July last, from Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda, on the subject of the feeling existing in the Province of Angola against the Decree of the Portuguese Government of the 3rd November, 1856, abolishing the compulsory labour formerly exacted from the negroes under the title of "serviço de carregadores," I have the honour to state that, thinking that the fittest use I could make of Mr. Gabriel's despatch would be to communicate it to the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, I transmitted to him on the 24th instant a copy of it in a letter in which I informed him that I had not failed to forward to your Lordship a copy of his Portaria of the 22nd September last, to the Governor-General of Angola, on the same subject.

In a letter which I received yesterday from his Excellency thanking me for the communication, he observes that Mr. Gabriel has correct ideas upon the subject, and that the difficulties in the way of the abolition of the service arise in great measure from the causes which he indicates; but that if the Government persevere in the system adopted, he is persuaded that, in a short space of time, the abolition will be completed, and that the trade with the interior of Africa will continue to increase at Angola, as it has already done in latter years.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

No. 160.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 5.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, November 28, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th ultimo, I have the honour of transmitting herewith a translation of a note of the 19th instant, which I received yesterday from the Marquis de Loulé, in answer to that which I addressed to his Excellency on the 15th of October, relative to the refusal of Senhor Rodriguez, the Portuguese Commissioner in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at Loanda, to accede to the proposal of Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner, that he should renew the oath of office prescribed by Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842.

Your Lordship will perceive that the Marquis de Loulé states, that he had already written to Senhor Rodrigues, under date of the 20th of September last, pointing out that although he had taken the oath in December 1856, in his capacity as Portuguese Commissioner, there would be no inconvenience in his ratifying that oath, because such a fact would in no manner annul any of his previous acts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 160.

*The Marquis de Loulé to Mr. Howard.*

(Translation.)

*Palace, November 19, 1858.*

I RECEIVED the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of the 15th of October last, transmitting to me, by order of your Government, copy of the



correspondence which took place between the Portuguese Commissioner in the Mixed Commission established at Loanda, and the British Acting Commissioner in the said Commission, relative to the oath which, according to Article 1 of the Annex B to the Treaty of the 3rd of July, 1842, the said Portuguese Commissioner ought to take in order to enter upon the legal exercise of his duties, in accordance with the Decree of the 3rd of November, 1857, by which he was appointed to that post.

In reply, I have to state to you that His Majesty's Government were already in possession of that correspondence, which had been communicated to them immediately by the Portuguese Commissioner, and to whom I wrote officially on the 20th of September last, showing that, although he had taken the oath in December 1856, in the capacity of Commissioner on the part of Portugal, yet no objection offered to the ratification of the oath by him, inasmuch as that circumstance would in nowise annul any previous acts of that officer performed in the exercise of his duty.

This question being then duly settled, I avail, &c.

(Signed)

MARQUIS DE LOULE.

No. 161.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Howard.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, February 7, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch to you of the 9th November last, relating to the capture and destruction of the Portuguese dhow called the "*Flor de Moçambique*," by Her Majesty's ship "*Lyra*," in the Mozambique Channel, on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, I herewith transmit to you, for your information, a copy of a further despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope,\* stating that the sum of 993*l.* 19*s.* has been awarded by the Court to the master for the loss of the vessel and of her cargo, as well as of other property on board her at the time of her capture.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

No. 162.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 22.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, February 15, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 27th of November last, I have the honour of inclosing a translation of a Portaria issued on the 5th instant, by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, and published in the "*Diario do Governo*" of yesterday's date, directing the Governor-General of Angola, in view of the information received by the Portuguese Government, that the greatest part of the difficulties experienced in the execution of the Decree of the 3rd of November, 1856, by which the compulsory labour formerly exacted from the negroes, under the denomination of "service of carriers," was abolished, has proceeded from the subordinate authorities of the province:—

1. To cause a rigorous inquiry to be immediately instituted into the conduct of those authorities in this matter.
2. To dismiss, transfer, or suspend such amongst them whose conduct he may have reason to believe has been irregular.
3. To take legal proceedings against those of whose criminality there shall be sufficient proof, in order that they may not remain unpunished.
4. To report to the Marine Department the result of the measures which he has thus been ordered to take.

Your Lordship will perceive that this Portaria is calculated to remedy the evil pointed out in the despatch of Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda of the 31st of July last, a copy of which was inclosed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 16th of November, and of which I communicated a copy to the Viscount de Sá.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY F. HOWARD.

Inclosure in No. 162.

*Decree.*

(Translation.)

WHEREAS it has come to the knowledge of His Majesty the King that the greater part of the difficulties which have arisen in the Province of Angola in the execution of the Decree of November 3, 1856, which abolishes the compulsory service there called "carregadores," is promoted by the subordinate authorities of that province, who, neglecting their duty, and abusing the confidence reposed in them, have not hesitated, in some localities, to demand certain sums for the concession of the so-called "carregadores;" and in other places denying, as they ought to do, such a concession to other parties, have taken them for their own use, thus monopolising the traffic with the interior to the prejudice of traders, and by this means reserving to themselves illicit gains, and neglecting the much-recommended compliance with the above-mentioned Decree, creating obstacles to the internal trade, and in their own interest increasing the repugnance felt by the natives to the voluntary transport service, and even by vexatious proceedings seeking to encourage it: His Majesty therefore commands, that through the Marine and Colonial Department, the Governor-General of the Province of Angola shall be instructed as follows:—

1. To cause without delay, and in such manner as may seem most convenient to him, a strict inquiry to be instituted upon the conduct of the subordinate Governors, and other Chiefs of districts, or other territorial sub-divisions, with reference to the subject in question.

2. That immediately upon having reasons for judging that the conduct of any authority has been irregular in this particular, to remove him from his post, and if belonging to the line, no matter what his rank may be, to place him in service in one of the districts where, previous to the publication of the said Decree of November 3, 1856, the practice of the compulsory transport service did not exist, or to place him on the retired list, for the convenience of the service, or to do service in the garrison corps.

3. That should the said inquiry furnish sufficient proofs for a regular judicial proceeding against any one of the said authorities, that such be instituted without delay according to law, laying before the proper Courts all the necessary information and proof, in order that the offenders may not escape with impunity.

4. Finally, to report to this Department the result obtained from the measures which he is hereby instructed to take, and transmitting a list of the authorities which he may have found to have proceeded irregularly in this respect, for the information of His Majesty's Government and the adoption of the proper measures.

All of which is hereby strongly recommended to the above-mentioned Governor-General, and he is further informed, that as His Majesty's Government is resolved to carry out a measure so indispensable for the civilization of the natives of that province, they will proceed with the strictest severity against such authorities as may prove to be remiss, or not sufficiently zealous in complying with His Majesty's orders in this respect, whatever may be their rank.

Palace, February 5, 1859.

(Signed) SA DA BANDEIRA.

No. 163.

*Mr. Howard to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 22.)*

My Lord,

*Lisbon, February 12, 1859.*

A ROYAL Decree of the 31st ultimo, published in the "Diario do Governo" of the 8th instant, after referring to the petition of Francisco Antonio Flores, in his own name and that of his partners, Pinto Perez and Co., of London, for permission to transfer the property which he acquired by the Decree of the 7th November, 1855, a translation of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 18th October, 1856, of the copper-mines of Bembe in the Province of Angola, to a Company which he has succeeded in forming in London, under the denomination of "Western Africa Malachite Copper-Mines Company, Limited," grants to the said Company the direct concession, for an unlimited period, of the right of property to those mines and other minerals and useful substances associated with them in the same depôt, on the condition, amongst others, of the said Company

fulfilling all the provisions, stipulations, or obligations not already complied with of the Decrees of the 7th November, 1855, and the 22nd December, 1852.

It is provided, however, that the term of three years, laid down in the concession made to Senhor Flores by the first of those Decrees, for the completion of the proposed road from the mines of Bembe to the city of Loanda, or to a convenient point on the River Dande, to be agreed upon with the Governor-General of Angola, shall begin to be counted from the date of the present concession.

I should observe that it was the circumstance that the original concession to Senhor Flores, a slave-trader, who had been expelled from Angola at the request of Her Majesty's Government, had formed the subject of comment in the Slave Trade correspondence of this Legation, which induced me at the time to transmit a copy of it in my Slave Trade series.

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

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PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Mozambique.*

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No. 164.

*Consul McLeod to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 14, 1858.)*

My Lord,

*Mozambique, December 7, 1857.*

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, a memorandum on the so-called free labour emigration, as carried on under the French flag on the East Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. LYONS McLEOD.

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Inclosure in No. 164.

*Memorandum.*

THE vessels employed on this service are French, varying from 200 to 1,000 tons burden, usually sailing vessels, but screw-steamers have been used.

Each vessel is allowed to take one negro per ton burden; but in the case of some ships that can carry more than their register tonnage an increase is allowed, being as high sometimes as 30 per cent. Before leaving Bourbon the ships are visited by the proper authorities, and a Government officer is placed on board to witness the legality and voluntary nature of the agreements made with the negroes. Most of the large vessels are fitted with an apparatus for distilling water.

The rations allowed to the negroes are ample; they consist of rice and salt fish.

Ibo is the general rendezvous for those vessels that proceed direct to the Coast of Africa.

The price paid for the men is from thirty to forty dollars a-head.

The slaves are kept at a distance of two or three days' journey from the coast, on account of the scarcity of food, and also, probably, that the barracoons may not be seen by Her Majesty's cruisers.

These slaves are brought from the interior, and are sometimes two or three months on their journey to the barracoons; there can be no doubt that they are obtained by violence.

Once on board the French ships they are treated with kindness and well fed, it being, of course, the interest of the captain to land his cargo in good condition.

Upon the arrival of the vessels at Bourbon the slaves (now called free labourers) are immediately vaccinated, and the sick placed in hospital at the expense of the captain or importer; the remainder, after passing fourteen days' quarantine in buildings devoted to that purpose, are hired to different sugar planters for a term of five years.

The negroes have no choice of masters. They receive as wages from 6s. to 8s. per month, and their food, which consists of rice, salt fish, and salt, in addition to which the employer has to find them clothes and medical attendance when sick.

In each district there is an officer, styled the Protector of Immigrants, whose business it is to see that these men are not ill-used, and that they receive in cash at the end of every month the wages that are due to them.

On no pretence is an employer allowed to beat his servant; if the man behaves ill he will be punished by the proper authorities.

Each immigrant is provided with a book, in which his name is inscribed, together with that of his employer and the rate of wages he is to receive. At the end of each month the planter must appear with his servant before the Protector of Immigrants, in whose presence

the wages are paid, and his signature in the book is a receipt for the servant's wages. Should the master neglect this and pay his servant at his own house the transaction is illegal, and he can be compelled to pay the wages a second time.

At the end of five years the negro must be returned to his own country at the expense of the original importer, but this very rarely happens; they generally take service by the month at about 14s. to 16s. and their food, mechanics, as carpenters, masons, and blacksmiths, of course, receive higher wages.

Some vessels engaged in this Traffic proceed to Nossi-Be, the French settlement in Madagascar, and put themselves in communication with the Arab merchants there. A man of the name of Kallifan, an Arab, of Zanzibar, is the person most commonly employed.

The vessel remains anchored at Nossi-Be whilst the Arabs send their dhows to the Coast of Africa to obtain slaves to be landed on a given point on the Coast of Madagascar. These dhows are from 20 to 50 tons, generally without decks, and, as they know that they are liable to be seized by Her Majesty's cruisers if they have mats, provisions, and any extra cooking apparatus on board, they take nothing more than what is actually necessary for their own crews.

The slaves are bought and stolen, and when the cargo is complete the men are tied hand and foot and placed on board.

During the voyage they receive just sufficient uncooked rice or beans, with a little water, to keep them alive, and are left day and night without any covering whatever, and surrounded by their own excrement. Their destination is generally some port not likely to be visited by Her Majesty's cruisers, and, arrived there, the only improvement in their condition is a full allowance of water. Should it happen that by stress of weather the ship that is to take them is retarded in her arrival their sufferings are much increased, and when these poor creatures do at last get on board the French ship the sudden change to an ample diet produces sickness, and sometimes death. The captain of a French vessel says that on one occasion, when he landed at Europa Island to get some turtle, he found upwards of 100 negroes lying on the beach without any protection against the sun or rain. They were guarded by some armed Arabs, and were waiting the arrival of a vessel to take them to Bourbon. Their provisions were nearly exhausted, and if by any accident this vessel should be retarded it is easy to conceive what their fate would be. As these dhows are for the most part old and unseaworthy, and they often lose their way, there can be no doubt that numbers of the negroes on board die from starvation.

It is said that the Commandant of the troops at Bourbon is so convinced of the demoralizing effect of this Traffic, that he has refused to allow any French officer under his orders to go on board of these vessels as Government Agents.

(Signed) J. LYONS Mc LEOD,  
*Her Majesty's Consul for Mozambique.*

No. 165.

*Consul McLeod to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 3, 1858.)*

(Extract.)

*Mozambique, October 30, 1857.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the new Governor-General of this province, his Excellency João Tavares d'Almeida, having been, on Saturday the 26th ultimo, duly installed in the Government-General of this province. on the following Monday I waited upon his Excellency for the purpose of calling his attention to my despatches addressed to his predecessor, relative to the Slave Trade carried on at Ibo. His Excellency promised that he would peruse the correspondence referred to that very night; and the next day he addressed to me a despatch, a translation of which I have the honour herewith to forward.

I regret that, in consequence of the very peremptory orders sent from the Cape of Good Hope for the immediate return of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Geyser," I could not comply with his Excellency's request to apply for the "Geyser" to take the new Governor of Ibo up to that island.

Inclosure in No. 165.

*The Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique to Consul McLeod.*

(Translation.)

Most Illustrious Sir,

*Mozambique, September 29, 1857.*

AFTER the conversation that we had yesterday, relative to the correspondence that your Honour had with my predecessor upon the Slave Traffic which your Honour states continues to be carried on at Ibo, and upon the embarkation of negroes, under the title of labourers, for the Island of Réunion, notwithstanding the imperative and positive orders to the contrary of the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty, conveyed in the Portarias of the 27th February, 1855, and 30th July, 1856; having examined with the greatest attention the said correspondence, it appears to me that I am in a position to-day to address your Honour, declaring that, with respect to such assumption, I have no other official notifications, excepting those transmitted through your despatches directed to my predecessor.

That in the absence of these notices, and taking into consideration those furnished by your Honour, I do not hesitate to avail myself of what your Honour has pointed out, which I most certainly will do: a requisition of help and of services directed to the captain of the steam-frigate belonging to Her Britannic Majesty, the "Geysler," by the intelligence conveyed in my requisition, will not fail to endeavour to persuade the said captain to constrain him to lay aside the instructions and orders that he may have from his Government.

In these terms, if the said captain considers himself authorized to be able to comply with my demand, your Honour will have the goodness first to give me the necessary information; since I have in view immediately to supersede the same Governor of the district of Cape Delgado, I desire that the captain will convey on board of his vessel the official to whom I will choose to give this authority, hoping that the said captain will extend his favour and co-operation by conveying to this capital the superseded Governor.

The official whom I will choose for this commission will, by me, be properly instructed as to the duties which he has to perform, and the manner in which he is to do them. To the captain of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-frigate "Geysler," a requisition of co-operation of his services, that cannot be done in any other manner, excepting in accordance with the terms of the Treaty which exists between Portugal and Great Britain for the abolition of the Traffic, and in conformity with the instructions of the two Governments on the said object.

The determination that I have to persecute the Slave Traffic in any part of the province where it is carried on, and under any pretence whatever, I will make known to the people of whom the government is confided to me, that these are my most fixed convictions, strengthened by my most rigorous duty to perform faithfully and punctually the positive and imperative orders to that effect.

God preserve, &amp;c.

(Signed)

JOAO TAVARES D'ALMEIDA.

No. 166.

*Consul McLeod to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received June 3, 1858.)*

My Lord,

*Mozambique, October 30, 1857.*

HEREWITH I have the honour to inclose, for your Lordship's information, copy of the Boletim of the 10th current, containing a notice (with a translation) issued by the new Governor-General of this Province, relative to the exportation of slaves under the denomination of free labourers.

Your Lordship will remark that this Boletim contains the Portarias of the Minister of Marine and Colonies of the 27th February, 1855, and the 30th July, 1856, which have now, for the first time, been published in this Province, that is to say, after the Government of the late Governor-General, Vasco Guedes de Carvalho e Menezes, has ceased.

The publication of these Portarias, with the accompanying notice of the new Governor-General's sentiments and determination relative to the Slave Trade under any denomination, together with other energetic measures adopted by him, lead me to hope that with a proper steam-force for the suppression of the Slave Trade, this horrid Traffic in our fellow-beings would soon cease in these parts, giving room for the ameliorating influences of commerce, the great pioneer of Christianity and civilization.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed)

J. LYONS Mc LEOD.

## Inclosure in No. 166.

*Extract from the Mozambique "Boletim."*

(Translation.)

THE Portarias of the Minister of Marine and Ultramarine of the 27th February, 1855, and the 30th July, 1856, by which the exportation of negroes from the Province, under the title of colonists or free labourers, is absolutely prohibited, not having been made public at the proper time, the Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique having ordered the publication of the said Portarias, avails himself of the occasion to make known in the most authentic and positive manner, that it is his firm determination immediately to supersede any authority who shall be less zealous in the exact performance of his duty by curbing this prohibited Traffic, or that of Slave Traffic; and to send to trial all those who protect either of the two Traffics, or connive at them.

No. 167.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul McLeod.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 5, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Howard, Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon,\* inclosing a copy of a Portaria issued by the Viscount de Sá da Bandeira, confirming an act of Senhor Onofre Lourenço de Andrade, a former Governor of Quillimane, restoring to liberty more than 200 negro settlers of Licungo, who had been reduced to a state of slavery.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 168.

*Consul McLeod to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received November 15.)*

(Extract.)

*Mozambique, February 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to my Memorandum on the so-called free labour emigration, as carried on under the French flag between the East Coast of Africa and Madagascar and the Island of Réunion, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I am well instructed that, not two weeks ago, four French vessels were lying at Nos Bé, waiting for cargoes of free labourers to be supplied to them by dhows from the Coast of Africa and Madagascar; that while these vessels were lying there, news arrived that the price of free labourers had fallen to 100 dollars per head at Réunion, where it has been gradually decreasing since the month of September last, in consequence of the market becoming overstocked, but that this does not deter the vessels from using their utmost endeavours to obtain slaves, as the holders of them at Bourbon are in hopes of being eventually well remunerated by supplying the labour market at Mauritius from Réunion.

No. 169.

*Consul McLeod to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 25.)*

My Lord,

*15, Whitehall Place, January 20, 1859.*

HEREWITH I have the honour to forward a despatch dated the 24th April, 1858, from his Excellency the Governor-General of Mozambique, inclosing the sentences of the Military Tribunal before which Senhor Leotte, ex-Governor of Inhambane, and the captain of the Portuguese schooner of war "Zambesi" were tried for communicating with the "Minnetonka," slaver, off Inhambane, as detailed in my despatch of the 30th September, 1857.

The sentence of acquittal pronounced by the Military Court, in both cases, was subject to the approval of the Junta de Justiça, which would be presided over by the Juge de Droit, to whom I have had to refer in my despatch above named; and, therefore, the opinion of that officer, who had already interfered with the inquiry commenced

by the late Governor-General in this matter, may be anticipated as confirming the sentence of the Military Tribunal.

Up to the date of my leaving Mozambique, viz., the 18th day of May, 1858, the sentence of the Court of Justice was not communicated to me.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. LYONS Mc LEOD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 169.

*The Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique to Consul Mc Leod.*

(Translation.)

*Palace of the Government-General of the Province of Mozambique, April 24, 1858.*

Sir,

IN reference to the letter of my predecessor of the 2nd September, 1857, in which he says, "que le Commandant du 'Zambezi' et le capitaine de corvette Leotte se trouvent arrêtés et livrés aux tribunaux," you wish me to communicate to you the judgment of the Courts in the two cases.

It is the case that the two persons above-mentioned, the Lieutenant Leotte, and the Moorish pilot Mussá Daude were ordered by my predecessor to make answer to the Council of Investigation on the 29th and 31st August, 1857, and that subsequently they made answer to the Council of War on the 23rd and 25th of September, 1857.

But the definitive sentence will be pronounced in a Court of Justice which will confirm or alter the judgments of the Councils of War, which acquitted the two persons above-mentioned.

I have reasons to believe, unless some unforeseen occurrence should intervene, that those persons will be judged in the session of the Court of Justice of Wednesday the 3rd of May next. The offence of which the two are accused is disobedience to orders.

I send you herewith the sentences of the Council of War, and as soon as the definitive judgment takes place, I will forward the respective sentences.

God preserve, &c. (Signed) JOAO TAVARES DE ALMEIDA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 169.

*Sentence.*

(Translation.)

SEEING in this city of Mozambique the indictment (*procès-verbal*) brought before the Council of War, against the accused Antonio Corrêa da Silva Leotte, Captain Lieutenant of the navy, Governor of the town of Sofala, the statement of the offence, the documents, and official papers, and the interrogatories of the accused aforesaid, together with his defence, it was unanimously decided that he was not guilty, and consequently he was declared free from the accusations brought against him. They acquit the accused, under these circumstances, place him in full liberty, and direct that so it shall be done.

*Quarters in the Square of St. Sebastian, in the Head-Quarters of the Battalion of Infantry, September 23, 1857.*

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOSE RODRIGUES PINHO, *Captain, Auditor.*

ANTONIO PEREIRA, *Lieutenant-Colonel, President.*

JOAO FERREIRA PORTUGAL DA GRACA, *Lieutenant-Colonel, Interrogator.*

JOSE MARIA TEIXEIRA PERES, *Major, voting.*

ANTONIO PEDRO BAPTISTA GONCALVES, *Retired Major, voting.*

JOSE LUIS DOS SANTOS, *Lieutenant, voting.*

FREDERICO AUGUSTO GOURGETT, *Lieutenant, voting.*

I, Marcos Aurelio Rodrigues de Cardinas, Major, Promoter, was present.

This sentence was made known by me, Auditor, to the accused, and that it would be submitted to the Court of the Council of Justice, and that this term was appointed for the same.

I, Antonio José Rodrigues Pinho, Captain, Auditor, who have written and signed the same.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOSE RODRIGUES PINHO, *Captain, Auditor.*



Inclosure 3 in No. 169.

*Sentence.*

(Translation.)

SEEING in this city of Mozambique the indictment of the accused Mussá Daudé, the statement of the offence, the documents, and official papers of the trial, and the defence of the same ; this Council of War is of the unanimous opinion that he be judged as not having, in part, complied with the articles of the instructions given to him, but that those faults were owing to ignorance, little practice, little knowledge, and a want of intelligence and qualifications, usual in Asiatics. Under these circumstances they acquit the accused, place him in full liberty, and order that so it shall be done.

*Quarters in the Square of St. Sebastian, September 25, 1857.*

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOSE RODRIGUES PINHO, *Captain, Auditor.*JOSE ANTONIO PEREIRA, *Lieutenant-Colonel, President.*JOAO FERREIRA PORTUGAL DA GRACA, *Lieutenant-**Colonel, Interrogator.*JOSE MARIA PERES, *Major, voting.*ANTONIO PEDRO BAPTISTA GONCALVES, *Retired**Major, voting.*JOSE LUIS DOS SANTOS, *Lieutenant, voting.*MIGUEL AUGUSTO DA SILVA CORDEIRO, *Ensign,*  
*voting.*

I, Marcos Aurelio Rodrigues de Cardinas, Major, Promoter, was present.

I, the Auditor, made known this sentence to the accused, and informed him that it would be laid before the Supreme Council of Justice, where he might allege what he thought proper ; for which I appointed this term, I, Antonio José Rodrigues Pinho, Captain, Auditor, who have written and signed the same.

(Signed)

ANTONIO JOSE RODRIGUES PINHO, *Captain, Auditor.*

SPAIN.

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No. 170.

*Lord Howden to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 14.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, April 5, 1858.*

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo,\* I hastened to call the attention of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to the great increase of the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba, fully embodying the details of the same, as conveyed to Her Majesty's Government by Mr. Consul-General Crawford.

In the answer from Señor de Isturiz, translation of which I have the honour herewith to inclose, your Lordship will perceive that my note to his Excellency, above referred to, has been transmitted to the Department of the Colonies, and that his Excellency takes the opportunity of dwelling upon the efforts made to suppress the Traffic by the cruisers of Her Catholic Majesty, the number of which, it is asserted, has been greatly increased in the waters of Cuba.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HOWDEN.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 170.

*Señor de Isturiz to Lord Howden.*

(Translation.)

Most Excellent Sir,

*Madrid, March 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, in reply to your Excellency's note of the 25th instant, that I have transcribed its contents to the General Colonial Office, in order that the information and arguments which your Excellency sets forth respecting the large scale on which the Slave Trade is being carried on in the Island of Cuba, in the opinion of Mr. Crawford, the British Consul-General at the Havana, may be taken into consideration by the aforesaid Office.

It is, however, my duty to state to your Excellency at the same time, that, according to the official data which have been received at this, First Secretary of State's, office, the persecution of all those who are engaged in the Traffic of Slaves has never been greater than at present.

Her Majesty's Government has considerably augmented the light forces of the naval station in Cuba; and, thanks to the measures adopted by the worthy Captain-General of that Antille, the following seizures of slaves have been made since the month of September last: 360 Bozals in the jurisdiction of Guantánamo, in the Eastern Department; 91 at Boca de Rotilla, in the jurisdiction of Jaruco; 81 near the Havana; and with regard to the vigilance at sea, so efficient a zeal has been displayed by the Commander of the squadron destined for this service, Captain Don Juan Bautista Zopete, that, since the above-mentioned date, five vessels have been captured by him, four of which had on board a number of slaves, amounting in all to 1,588. These vessels were: a brig-barque, without any flag at all, captured by the pilot-boat "Christina" in the waters of Cardenas; a frigate, bearing no name; and the brig-barque named "Leckington," captured by Her Majesty's steamer "Neptune;" and "Conde de Venadito;" and the Marques de la Habana, suspecting that 179 Bozals, who had been seized on board one of the aforesaid vessels, were only a portion of a larger cargo, took the proper steps for obtaining the seizure of the remaining number of that cargo, and the result was the seizure of 29 slaves in the plantation of Santa

Susana, of 55 in the jurisdiction of Sanctus Spiritus, of 23 on board the steamer "*Almendares*," of 13 in the Savane of Amaro, and 65 at a place called Carahates.

Finally, on the 3rd of January of this year, the Brigadier-Governor of Matanzas seized 68 negroes, which the schooner "*Esperanza*" was compelled to land at Punta de Guamo, after having kept up a very sharp firing against a boat of the war-schooner "*Cristina*;" and there are reasons for believing that the aforesaid negroes formed part of a cargo conveyed in the brig-barque which was abandoned by her crew, and captured by the screw-schooner "*Isabel Francisca*."

The foregoing statement will convince your Excellency of the exquisite vigilance which is being displayed in the matter in question by the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba; and I trust that Lord Malmesbury, and the Administration of which he forms part, will appreciate at its full value the above-mentioned results, the difficulties which it has been necessary to overcome in order to obtain them, considering the highly lucrative nature of this Traffic, and the great extension and solitude of the coasts on which it is carried on, as well as the solicitude with which Her Majesty's Government endeavours to fulfil the duties imposed on it by the existing Treaties, by its own dignity, and by the good understanding which happily prevails at present between the two nations.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) XAVIER DE ISTURIZ.

No. 171.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Howden.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, April 17, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana,\* reporting the capture by British cruizers, off the coast of Cuba, of two vessels, one of them equipped for, and the other suspected of being engaged in, the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 172.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Howden.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, May 8, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copies of three despatches on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade, which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Commission Court established at the Havana.†

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 173.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, June 23, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, copies and extracts of despatches as marked in the margin,‡ on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade, which I have received from Mr. Crawford, in his capacity as Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, and as British Judge in the Mixed British and Spanish Commission established at that place under the Treaty of 1835, between this country and Spain, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

These reports, which are confirmed by others received from Her Majesty's naval officers, leave no room for doubting that the Slave Trade is now carried on in Cuba to an extent little, if at all, inferior to that which prevailed before Spain bound herself by Treaty

\* No. 214.

† Class A, Nos. 28, 29, and 31.

‡ Nos. 209, 210, 213, 218, and 219; and Class A, No. 26.

to put a stop entirely and for ever to the Traffic in Slaves in the Spanish Colonial Possessions.

During the past year no less than twenty-three vessels were captured or destroyed by British cruisers on the African Coast, either with slaves on board, or equipped for the Slave Trade: and, in addition to those captured by British cruisers, the Portuguese authorities also seized two vessels on the African Coast, fully equipped for the Slave Traffic; and five vessels, with slaves on board, were also taken by the Cuban authorities themselves; making a total of thirty vessels captured in one year engaged in the Cuban Slave Trade, besides numerous others which are known to have escaped the vigilance of the British and Spanish cruisers, and to have succeeded in landing their cargoes on the Cuban Coast.

During the present year Her Majesty's cruisers on the African Coast have also captured four vessels equipped for the Slave Trade, and two more have been taken off the Coast of Cuba; and by the last advices received by Her Majesty's Government from Cuba and the United States, it is stated on good authority that more than fifty vessels have already sailed, and that others are about to clear from the United States and Cuban ports for the African Coast destined to return with slaves to Cuba.

It is useless for the Spanish authorities to deny, as they have hitherto done, the correctness of the reports received by Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade.

The captures made have shown that the representations of Her Majesty's Government as to the extent of this Traffic have not been either exaggerated or ill founded.

Nor could this iniquitous Traffic be carried on unless with the connivance of the Spanish authorities, and that there must be connivance on the part of these authorities is proved by the impunity with which vessels are equipped and sail from Cuban ports.

The "*Almeida*" and "*Cortes*," recently captured by British cruisers, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, a few hours after they had left Cuban ports, are instances in point.

It is shown also by the facility with which slaves are landed and disposed of in Cuba; for it is impossible that the disembarkation of large cargoes of slaves in that island should not be known to a very considerable number of persons of all classes, and to the authorities also, if they efficiently perform their duties.

The slaves, moreover, even after they are safely landed, require to be provided with "cedulas," or certificates of registration, and this, again, could not be done unless with the connivance of the authorities, whose duty it is to see that the registration system is honestly carried out.

But so far from any more efficient measures being adopted by the Spanish Government for the suppression of the Cuban Slave Trade, it appears by the last accounts received by Her Majesty's Government from Cuba that even the small squadron organized last year by the Captain-General of that island for the suppression of the Slave Traffic is no longer available for that service, and that the vessels of which it was composed are in port, unserviceable, and this, too, at a time when such vast preparations are making by the slave-traders to carry on the Traffic with increased vigour.

This is a state of things of which Her Majesty's Government has just grounds to complain. Spain has bound herself by Treaty to put down the Slave Trade in her dominions, and if she honestly performed her Treaty engagements the Traffic in African slaves would be at an end; for Spain is now the only country on whose soil the slave-trader can land his cargo of human beings.

Her Majesty's Government has a right to require that a term shall be put to the flagrant abuse by the Spanish authorities of the engagements which Spain has contracted with this country for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and a longer persistence in the course hitherto pursued with regard to the Cuban Slave Traffic cannot fail seriously to impair those friendly relations which it is the earnest desire of Her Majesty's Government to cultivate with the Government of Her Catholic Majesty.

I have to instruct you to read this despatch to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and you will at the same time communicate to his Excellency the substance of the information contained in Mr. Crawford's reports.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, June 24, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana,\* instructing him to make a communication to the Captain-General of Cuba on the subject of the Slave Trade which is carried on in that island.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 16.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, July 10, 1858.*

I HAVE been informed that a despatch to the Spanish Representative in London has been drawn up, claiming redress from Her Majesty's Government for certain improper acts alleged to have been committed at Sagua la Grande by a boat belonging to one of Her Majesty's cruizers on the coast of Cuba, and referred to by Consul-General Crawford, in the correspondence of which copies were transmitted to me in your Lordships despatch of the 23rd ultimo. At an interview, therefore, which I had this morning with M. Calderon Collantes, I repeated to him the observations I had already made to M. de Isturiz, as reported in my despatch of the 7th instant, as to the inexpediency of making acts atoned for on the spot a subject of complaint to Her Majesty's Government; adding, however, that as I understood the Spanish Government did not attach importance to Mr. Crawford's explanations, inasmuch as they might not have received the approval of Her Majesty's Government, I was glad to have it in my power to inform him that Her Majesty's Government had not only disapproved of the proceedings complained of by the Captain-General of Cuba, but had taken measures to prevent their recurrence.

He replied that the Spanish Government, in his own opinion, had in that case nothing more to ask for, and expressed a wish that I would address a few lines to him containing this information, in order that he might submit them to the Cabinet, who he hoped would take no further steps in the matter.

I have, therefore, addressed to him the note of which the inclosure is a copy.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

## Inclosure in No. 175.

*Mr. Buchanan to Señor Collantes.*

Sir,

*Madrid, July 10, 1858.*

WITH reference to your Excellency's observations this morning on the subject of certain improper acts said to have been committed at Sagua la Grande, by a boat belonging to one of Her Majesty's cruizers on the coast of Cuba, which formed the subject of a complaint addressed by the Captain-General of Cuba to Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, I am glad to have it in my power to assure your Excellency that Her Majesty's Government have expressed their disapprobation of the proceedings complained of, and have taken measures to prevent their recurrence.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 16.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, July 10, 1858.*

M. CALDERON COLLANTES informed me this morning that the Spanish Government had just received a report from the Captain-General of Cuba, stating that all the

vessels at his disposal had received orders to exert themselves to the utmost to prevent the importation of slaves into the island. As I rejoined that the Cuban squadron was much too small for the duty it had to perform, his Excellency assured me that the Government intended to increase it as far as the naval means of the country would enable them to do so.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 177.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1858.*  
I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th instant, and I have to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government approve the note of which a copy is inclosed therein, which you addressed to Señor Calderon Collantes, acquainting him that Her Majesty's Government had expressed their disapprobation of the proceedings of the officer who had boarded certain vessels at Sagua la Grande.

I have now to instruct you to repeat to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, the expression of their regret at the proceedings in question, which, you will inform his Excellency, were disapproved at the time, not only by the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the West India Station, but also by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 178.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1858.*  
I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, copies of reports from Vice-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, from Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx," and from Commander Peel, of Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Buzzard," which I have received from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, relating to the proceedings of Her Majesty's cruizers on the coast of Cuba, and to the extent to which the Slave Trade is carried on in that island.\*

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 179.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir, *Foreign Office, July 21, 1858.*  
I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,† inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between the Captain-General of Cuba and himself, on the question of limits within which British cruizers should exercise the right of visit on the coast of Cuba.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

\* Class A, Inclosure 1 in No. 184; No. 186, and Inclosures; No. 187, and Inclosure; No. 182, and Inclosures.

† No. 224.

No. 180.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 12.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, August 5, 1858.*

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 21st ultimo, I have addressed to the Spanish Government a note, copy of which I have the honour, herewith, to inclose, expressing the regret of Her Majesty's Government at certain irregularities alleged to have been committed by British cruizers at Sagua la Grande.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 180.

*Mr. Buchanan to Señor Collantes.*

Sir,

*Madrid, July 27, 1858.*

WITH reference to my note of the 10th instant on the subject of certain irregularities alleged to have been committed by Her Majesty's cruizers at Sagua la Grande, I have much pleasure in informing your Excellency that the Earl of Malmesbury, in acquainting me with the approval of Her Majesty's Government of that note, has instructed me to repeat to your Excellency, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, the expression of their regret at the proceedings in question, which were disapproved at the time, not only by the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the West India Station, but also by Her Majesty's Government.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 182.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 17, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you, herewith, copies of despatches, as marked in the margin,\* which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana.

These despatches contain additional proofs of the great activity with which the Slave Trade is now carried on in Cuba; and it seems to be impossible that the fitting out of vessels, and the landing of slaves to the extent reported in these despatches, could be effected without the connivance of the Spanish authorities.

I have to call your particular attention to that part of Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 1st of July, in which he states that the Captain-General of Cuba alleges that his authority is limited and insufficient to enable him to put a stop to this Traffic, and that the offenders must be tried before the Civil authorities of the Royal Audiencia, according to the Penal Law which was passed after the Treaty of 1835. That Law, Mr. Crawford states, is so defective, and its stipulations such, as to be more a protection than a terror to those who come under its provisions, because they know the difficulty of obtaining the proofs necessary to convict slave-traders or their accomplices.

You will again call the serious attention of the Spanish Government to this subject, and you will state to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that the best manner in which the Spanish Government can prove that they are in earnest in the repeated assurances which they have given to Her Majesty's Government of their desire to put an end to the Slave Trade in Cuba, will be to enact more stringent laws for the suppression of that Traffic, and to confer upon the Captain-General of Cuba the power to deal summarily with cases in which his inferior officers may be implicated in the Slave Trade, and to punish slave-traders and their accomplices.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 183.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 20, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th instant, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a further despatch from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,\* on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 184.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 13.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, August 30, 1858.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 17th instant, transmitting to me copies of despatches from Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Havana on the subject of the increased activity lately given to the Cuban Slave Trade, and instructing me to suggest to the Spanish Government the expediency of investing the Captain-General of Cuba with greater powers and fuller authority, with a view to its suppression.

As the Minister for Foreign Affairs is still absent from Madrid, and will not return for some weeks, I have felt it necessary to bring before his Excellency, in the form of a note, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy herewith, the information contained in Mr. Crawford's despatches, and the views of Her Majesty's Government with respect to it.

I have thus called the serious attention of the Spanish Government to the question; and I shall not fail, on the return of M. Calderon Collantes, to endeavour to induce them to give a favourable consideration to the suggestions of your Lordship.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 184.

*Mr. Buchanan to Señor Collantes.*

Sir,

*Madrid, August 30, 1858.*

HER Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has communicated to me copies of despatches recently received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, containing additional proofs of the great activity with which the Slave Trade is now carried on in Cuba; vessels being fitted out, and cargoes of slaves landed to an extent which, it seems, would be impossible without the connivance of Spanish authorities.

On the 8th of July last, Mr. Crawford states that four large American vessels had sailed, within a short time, for the Coast of Africa, from the Havana, while two were understood to be fitting out there; three or four more at Matanzas, and several at Cardenas; many others have, doubtless, been purchased, and sent direct from the United States.

About the middle of June, he reports the disembarkation, at Cardenas, of 900 slaves, stating that the Captain-General had confirmed the information which he had received from other sources respecting that instance of a violation of the law, which could never have taken place if the local authorities had done their duty. These slaves, before being sent to the interior, were said to have been duly provided with "cedulas" for their protection, and they were believed to have been landed from the Spanish vessel "Iberia," commanded by the notorious Don Eugenio Viñas, and to have been forwarded to the estate of Don Julian Zulueta, where the Captain-General intended to cause search to be made for them. Little or no hope, however, was entertained of their being recovered, as such measures rarely succeed, from a want of zeal on the part of the officers charged with their execution.

Unfortunately, the late understanding come to between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States, as to the visit of vessels sailing under the American flag, appears to have stimulated to an extraordinary degree the energy of the slave-traders, and



subscriptions were daily collecting for slave-trading expeditions; it being notorious that, if the slaves can be conveyed in American vessels to the coast of Cuba, there will be no great difficulty or risk in landing them, and that it is almost impossible to obtain evidence to convict a slave-trader or his accomplices. I find, with reference to this latter point, that Mr. Crawford concurs in an opinion, which I have myself expressed on a former occasion to your Excellency, that if the Captain-General of Cuba were enabled to punish, with uncompromising severity, all persons conniving with slave-traders, he could not fail to put an end to the Trade, and to secure the exact performance of their duty by all his subordinates. The Captain-General, however, alleges that his authority is limited, and insufficient to put an end to the Traffic, and that offenders must be tried before the Civil authorities of the Royal Audiencia, according to the Penal Law passed after the Treaty of 1835, which is so defective that its stipulations have hitherto proved a protection, instead of a terror, to delinquents. Mr. Crawford is therefore of opinion that if the Captains-General of Cuba are to be held responsible for the cessation of the Slave Trade, they should be invested with powers to punish summarily, and degrade, inferior officers who may implicate themselves in slave-trading; and to fine, imprison, and send away from the island all slave-traders and their accomplices.

The Earl of Malmesbury, on transmitting to me copies of Mr. Crawford's despatches, has called my attention more particularly to the observations which I have just quoted; and his Lordship has instructed me to bring them before the consideration of the Spanish Government, and to state to your Excellency, that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty could, in no better manner, prove that they are in earnest in the assurances which they have given to Her Majesty's Government of their desire to put an end to the Slave Trade in Cuba, than by enacting more stringent laws for the suppression of that Traffic, and by conferring on the Captain-General of Cuba the power to deal summarily with cases in which his inferior officers may be implicated in the Trade, and to punish in the same manner the slave-traders and their accomplices.

Had you not been absent from Madrid, I should have preferred to fulfil my instructions at an interview with your Excellency, when I could have gone more at length into the question, and have brought further details before your Excellency's notice, in proof of the present activity of the slave-traders, as I feel assured you would have given due weight to all I should have had to urge on the subject. I trust, however, as I cannot have the honour of an interview with your Excellency for some time, that this statement of the grounds on which Her Majesty's Government hope that Her Catholic Majesty's Government may consider it expedient to invest the Captain-General of Cuba with fuller powers and greater authority, will be received by your Excellency in the same spirit which you have evinced in our former communications on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade, and that you will take it into consideration, animated by the desire which you have frequently expressed to me, to adopt every possible means for the suppression of that odious Traffic in the dominions of Her Catholic Majesty.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 185.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 21, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a translation of a note which I have received from M. Conte, the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, on the subject of a complaint made by the captain of the Spanish brig "Don Juan," that his vessel had been repeatedly visited at untimely hours by the officers of Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of Africa, who had on those occasions shown a want of proper courtesy to himself and his crew.

I also inclose a copy of the answer which I have returned to M. Conte's note.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## Inclosure 1 in No. 185.

*Señor Conte to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

(Translation.)

My Lord,

*Spanish Legation, London, August 20, 1858.*

BY a despatch from the Spanish Vice-Consul at Accra, confirmed by another from the Consul-General in Sierra Leone of the 9th of May last, the Government of Her Majesty the Queen, my august Sovereign, has been informed of the complaints of the captain of the Spanish brig "Don Juan," against the cruizers of Her Britannic Majesty. According to the declarations of the captain and crew of the brig "Don Juan," the officers of Her Britannic Majesty's navy have visited that vessel repeatedly, more, as it might be supposed, to molest and annoy the Spanish navigators than because there was really cause for suspicion according to the provisions of Article IV of the Treaty of 1835. In the several visits now in question it appears that the officers of Her Britannic Majesty have acted with little courtesy, have uttered expressions of contempt and insult, have not exhibited any document to show that they were authorised to visit, and have made their visits at untimely hours, as, for instance, at 2 o'clock in the morning, when the vessel was at anchor in the port, compelling the captain to get out of bed and dress himself. Lastly, they have examined even the most hidden corner of the vessel, showing, as it appears, more desire to annoy and offend the Spaniards than to fulfil their duties.

In communicating these facts to your Excellency by command of the Government of Her Majesty, my august Sovereign, I have to impress on you the expediency of Her Britannic Majesty's Government admonishing the Commanders of her cruizers, and recommending them to observe what is prescribed in the Treaty upon the matter of visits.

In the expectation that your Excellency will have the goodness to turn your attention to this delicate affair, I have, &c.

(Signed)

AUGUSTO CONTE.

## Inclosure 2 in No. 185.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Señor Conte.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 8, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 20th ultimo, stating that the Spanish Vice-Consul at Accra and the Spanish Consul-General at Sierra Leone have brought before Her Catholic Majesty's Government a complaint made by the captain of the Spanish brig "Don Juan" that his vessel had been repeatedly visited at untimely hours by the officers of Her Majesty's cruizers, who had on those occasions shown a want of proper courtesy to himself and his crew; and you request, by order of your Government, that Her Majesty's Government will admonish the officers of Her Majesty's cruizers, and direct them to observe the rules respecting the right of visit prescribed by the Treaty of the 28th of June, 1835.

I have the honour to acquaint you in reply, that if you will have the goodness to furnish me with the name of the ship or ships of whose visits the captain of the "Don Juan" complains, I will not fail to cause inquiry to be made into the circumstances stated in your letter. But I must in the mean time observe, that the officers of Her Majesty's cruizers are directed strictly to act in accordance with the stipulations of Treaties, and to perform their delicate duties with courtesy and discretion; and Her Majesty's Government have had no reason to think that these directions are not usually strictly carried out.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

## No. 186.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 21, 1858.*

I TRANSMITTED to you in my despatch of the 24th of June last, a copy of a despatch which I had addressed to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,

instructing him to make a communication to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the Slave Trade which is carried on in that island.

I now inclose for your information a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Crawford, reporting a conversation which he has held with the Captain-General on this subject.\*

I am, &c.  
(In the absence of Lord Malmesbury)  
(Signed) W. S. V. FITZGERALD.

No. 187.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received October 1.)

(Extract.)

*Madrid, September 26, 1858.*

THE Captain-General of Cuba, in carrying out his determination to put down the Slave Trade, as far as he has power to do so, has suspended several judicial functionaries in the island whose conduct in questions relating to the Trade had given him dissatisfaction, and the measure would appear to have been approved by the Government, for the "Gazette" of this morning contains Royal Decrees dismissing six functionaries from the Pretorial Court of the Audiencia of Cuba and appointing their successors, and I trust that this reform of the Audiencia, together with the energy lately shown by General Concha in the steps taken against American vessels in Cuban ports suspected of slave-trading, which have doubtless been reported to your Lordship by Mr. Consul-General Crawford, may be looked upon as an earnest of an intention on the part of the present Spanish authorities to fulfil, honestly and zealously, the engagements contracted by Spain under the Treaty of 1835.

No. 188.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 23, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,† on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade; and I have to instruct you again to call the attention of the Spanish Government to the insufficiency of the powers with which the Captain-General of Cuba is invested for the punishment of persons implicated in the Slave Trade, and to urge them to adopt the measures suggested in the inclosed despatch.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 189.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 23, 1858.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 26th ultimo, reporting that the Spanish Government had dismissed six officers of the Judicial Court of the Audiencia in Cuba, who had connived at the Slave Trade; and I have to instruct you to acquaint the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that Her Majesty's Government fully appreciate the proof thus afforded that the Spanish Government are desirous of showing their anxiety to carry out measures for putting an end to the Slave Trade in Cuba.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 191.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 23, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,\* reporting the capture by Her Majesty's brig "Heron" of the brigantine "Mary Elizabeth," which had been permitted to leave the Havana fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 192.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 26, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, a copy of a note from Mr. Dallas,† stating that the United States' Government do not intend to prosecute any further the claim brought forward by them in consequence of the seizure of the schooner "Cortes" by Her Majesty's gun-boat "Forward," off the coast of Cuba, in April last.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 193.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 26, 1858.*

M. ISTURIZ called upon me yesterday, and I had the opportunity of expressing to him the gratification with which Her Majesty's Government had received notice of his reappointment as Her Catholic Majesty's Minister at this Court.

Her Majesty's Government have the full conviction that this appointment indicates on the part of the Spanish Government an earnest desire, which is equally participated here, to maintain unimpaired the most cordial relations between the two countries.

Amongst other friendly assurances given to me by M. Isturiz, he begged me to believe in the sincerity of his Government to endeavour to suppress the inhuman Traffic in Slaves, and he stated at the same time that they were anxious to be made acquainted with any facts upon which Her Majesty's Government might have had reason to think that sufficient efforts had not been made by Spain with that view.

I should have preferred to abide by the assurances given by M. Isturiz, rather than to enter at the present moment upon any detail of the horrors resulting from the continuance of slavery in Cuba, or of the causes which aggravate the evil, and I do not even now propose to make statements which, while elucidating facts, might cause embitterment.

The information which has been given to Her Majesty's Mission at Madrid in this matter, and which, doubtless, has been communicated from time to time to the Spanish Government, will show that Her Majesty's Government have not made assertions incapable of proof; but what Her Majesty's Government have desired, and are still desirous of impressing upon the Government of Her Catholic Majesty, is that Slave Trade can only be suppressed by efforts of a much more vigorous character than any which have yet been employed by previous Governments at Madrid.

Cuba may be said to be the last remaining mart for the real slave-merchant. The difficulties interposed have only tended to raise the price of slaves in Cuba, and to increase proportionately the gains of those who take part in the Traffic. A system has been organized by which the persons who foster this detestable Trade escape punishment, but under which large fortunes are amassed. One of the great centres of this system is the Havana, from whence associations are formed in the United States, principally by foreigners, and generally by Spaniards, who assume American nationality, and who make a fraudulent use of the American flag. Vigorous efforts at the Havana, and in Cuba

\* Class A, No. 91.

† Inclosure in No. 342.

generally, would necessarily diminish their gains ; and authoritative and determined interference by the Local Government could not fail to put an entire stop to the Trade.

Her Majesty's Government readily acknowledge the earnest desire evinced by General Concha to exert himself in this matter ; but they are convinced that his efforts will be unavailing unless he is vested with power sufficient to meet the difficulties which stand in his way.

It is in the confident belief that the present Government of Spain are sincere in their desire to confer such extended powers on their Viceroy, that I abstain from alluding to the manner in which all laws and regulations are evaded in Cuba. The fact that recently certain Spanish officials in that island have been dismissed from their situations, proves not only their complicity in the Slave Trade, but the determination of the Home Government to inflict the punishment due to their crimes ; and Her Majesty's Government trust that no efforts will be spared by the present Government of Spain to put an end to a Traffic abhorrent alike to the laws of God and man.

You will read this despatch to M. Calderon Collantes, and give a copy of it to his Excellency.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 194.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 13.)*

(Extract.)

*Madrid, November 2, 1858.*

I HAVE read to M. Calderon Collantes extracts from Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 3rd September last, of which a copy was transmitted to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo, and I have, in obedience to your instructions, called his Excellency's attention to the insufficiency of the powers with which the Captain-General of Cuba is invested for the punishment of persons implicated in the Slave Trade. I, at the same time, urged the expediency of the Spanish Government adopting the measures which have proved effective in the Brazils for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and of making the Government of Cuba responsible for their execution, full powers being granted to the Captain-General for the purpose.

I mentioned at the same time to his Excellency, that an English gentleman who had just arrived from Cuba, and was well acquainted with the island, had informed me that not only the laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade, but also those for the protection of the negro, were rendered inoperative by one which prevents the Government authorities from exercising any inspection over estates ; and that I believed it was by granting the police authority to exercise such a right that the Slave Trade had been rendered impossible in the Brazils.

His Excellency replied that for many reasons it would be inexpedient to entrust greater power to the Captain-General than he already possessed, and which he could not believe was inadequate if properly used for suppressing the Trade, as far as it could be done by the Governor of the island. His Excellency also declared that I was mistaken in supposing that General Concha had himself suggested that his powers should be increased ; and to satisfy me upon that point he said he would write to his Excellency in the course of a few days to ascertain his views upon the subject, and would make me acquainted with his answer, which he felt assured would ask for nothing which the Government would not be ready to grant.

Without any addition being made to the Captain-General's authority, he said, the Government trusted that the punishment of delinquents, and recompenses to those who acted uprightly, would ensure the performance of their duty by the servants of the Crown ; and he would look to that alone, and not to exceptional laws, for the attainment of the object in view—though he could not hope for the entire suppression of the Slave Trade, for while slave-labour could command enormous prices, means would be found to avoid the vigilance of the authorities.

No. 195.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 13.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, November 2, 1858.*

I HAVE acquainted M. Calderon Collantes with the circumstances under which the slaver "*Mary Elizabeth*" was captured by Her Majesty's brig "*Heron*," as reported in the inclosure in your Lordship's despatch of the 23rd ultimo; and I have endeavoured to convince his Excellency of the gross misconduct of the authorities of the Custom-house at the Havana, in permitting that vessel to leave the port fully equipped for a slave-trading voyage.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 196.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 13.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, November 5, 1858.*

I TOOK an early opportunity after the arrival of the messenger Haviland, who delivered to me your Lordship's despatch of the 26th ultimo, to read that document to M. Calderon Collantes, and in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I left a copy of it with his Excellency.

While listening to it, M. Calderon Collantes expressed his entire adhesion to the friendly assurances offered to your Lordship on the part of the Spanish Government by M. Isturiz; but he dissented from your Lordship's opinion, that the Slave Trade could be entirely suppressed by the more vigorous and determined interference of the local authorities in the Havana and in Cuba.

He begged me, however, to assure your Lordship that no efforts will be spared by the present Government of Spain to put an end to the Traffic, and that orders will be immediately addressed to General Concha, instructing him to dismiss summarily, not only every servant of the Government who may be guilty of connivance with slave-trading, but also those who are supine or remiss in the performance of their duties for its suppression.

The Captain-General, his Excellency said, will also be instructed to communicate these orders to all his subordinates, and to inform them that the Government at home are determined to punish severely every dereliction of duty on this subject which may come to their knowledge.

General Concha will be invited at the same time to make a full and complete report on the present state of the Cuban Slave Trade, and on the treatment of the slaves who are illegally imported into the island, and he will be requested to make any suggestions which may occur to him, for rendering more efficient the means which he has at his disposal for the suppression for the Trade.

I observed to his Excellency that I trusted, among those suggestions, General Concha would recommend the expediency of opening plantations, more than they are at present, to the inspection of the police, for I had reason to believe that such a measure would be desirable in isolated districts, not only with a view to the suppression of the Slave Trade, but also for the protection of the negroes; and I mentioned to his Excellency that I had received an account from a trustworthy source, of a large number of Chinese labourers in Cuba who had destroyed themselves to escape from the tyranny of the planters into whose service they had entered. I said that these unfortunate men having been treated like slaves by hard task-masters, and watched by blood-hounds, which prevented any chance of a successful flight, had preferred death to the misery of their position.

M. Collantes received these observations in the best possible spirit, and assured me that if the Captain-General of Cuba could propose any practicable means of securing the object in view, without unduly increasing his own authority, his views would meet with the most favourable consideration from the Spanish Government.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 13.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, November 5, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of this date, I have the honour to add that I stated to M. Calderon Collantes that the information, to which your Lordship had referred in your despatch of the 26th ultimo, as to the dismissal of members of the Audiencia at the Havana, had been communicated to me by a person who, I believed, was well acquainted with the true cause of the measure, but that I would, nevertheless, be glad to receive a confirmation of it from his Excellency; for though in a former conversation he had expressed a hope that the new Audiencia would render the law more efficient for the suppression of the Slave Trade, he had not exactly stated that their predecessors had been dismissed for connivance in it. M. Calderon Collantes replied that they were dismissed for remissness in the application of the criminal law generally, both in slave-trading cases and in other offences.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 198.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 13.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, November 7, 1858.*

WITH reference to the Earl of Clarendon's despatch to Lord Howden of the 8th December, 1856,\* inclosing him copy of a note which his Lordship had addressed to M. Pacheco on the 26th November of the same year, on the subject of a claim against Her Majesty's Government on the part of the Spanish Government, for the reimbursement of 6,160 dollars, paid by the Spanish authorities at the Havana to the owners of the Spanish brig "Arrogante Emilio," for demurrage, in pursuance of a decision of the Mixed British and Spanish Tribunal at Havana; and also calling his Excellency's attention to a correspondence which had taken place between the Governments respecting the claim of Her Majesty's Government against that of Spain, for their share of the expenses incurred by the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship the translation of a note from M. Calderon Collantes, acquainting me with the readiness of the Spanish Government to settle these questions on the terms proposed by the Earl of Clarendon in his despatch of the 8th April, 1856, namely, by equal payments on the part of the two Governments.

Your Lordship will observe, however, that the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs maintains the principle laid down by his predecessors, that the "Prize Fund," referred to in Article XI of the Treaty of 1835 for the Suppression of the Slave Trade, is formed from the produce of the sale of vessels condemned as legal prizes by the Mixed Commission; but that he observes, at the same time, that the Spanish Government will bear in mind the suggestions which have been made by Her Majesty's Government, with reference to the best method of carrying out the provisions of that Article, whenever the two Governments, by mutual consent, may decide upon modifying it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 198.

*Señor Collantes to Mr. Buchanan.*

(Translation.)

Sir,

*Madrid, October 26, 1858.*

IN the Legation which is under your worthy charge, there must exist the particulars of two claims which were, for some time past, a subject of discussion between the Government of Her Majesty the Queen my Sovereign, and that of Her Britannic Majesty.

The first is relative to the sum of 6,160 hard dollars, paid by the Spanish Government, on account of demurrage, to Don José Joaquim Carrera, the owner of the brig "Arrogante Emilio," captured by the English frigate "Vestal," and acquitted and

\* Class B, presented 1857, No. 489.

declared free from the charges brought forward against her by the cruiser, supposing her to be destined for the Slave Trade, by the Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana.

It is a constant practice in the Mixed Court at Sierra Leone, which is perfectly similar to the Court at the Havana in its origin, object, and attributions, that the British Government, of which that Court is a dependency, is to pay all the expenses of that Court of Justice, subsequently presenting to Her Catholic Majesty's Government, from time to time, as will be seen hereafter, a return or general account of all the expenses occasioned by the Mixed Court, and of the income proceeding from the prizes sold, in conformity with the Treaty of 1835, and paying over to Spain the portion belonging to her of the surplus, when there is one, or claiming upon her for her portion of the deposit, whenever the Prize Fund, which is formed with the product of the prizes which have been sold, is not sufficient to cover all the expenses.

Such was also the practice adopted by Her Majesty's Government for paying to Señor Carrera the sum belonging to him. The Mixed Court of Justice at the Havana declared the capture of the "Arrogante Emilio" to be illegal, and acquitted her from the charges set forth against her by the cruiser. The 6,160 hard dollars, amount of the compensation awarded to the aforesaid vessel, ought to have been paid from the Prize Fund, according to Article XI of the Treaty of 1835. But, as no sum of money whatever existed at that time to constitute the above-mentioned fund, Her Majesty's Government consequently caused the aforesaid 6,160 hard dollars, which was the total amount of the compensation granted to Señor Carrera by the Mixed Court, to be paid to him by the public Treasury at the Havana. This payment took place, and an application was made, in due course, to Her Britannic Majesty's Government, claiming the reimbursement of the 3,080 hard dollars which Her Majesty's Government had advanced for their account.

But this application crossed another one, which was presented by Her Britannic Majesty's Government (the second of those alluded to at the beginning of this note), claiming from Spain the payment of 1,537*l.* for the portion corresponding to her in the account of expenses incurred by England for the Mixed Court of Sierra Leone since the 1st of January, 1845, up to the 31st of December, 1853, as appeared from the liquidation of the general account of expenses of the aforesaid Court.

Her Majesty's Government found some well-grounded objections to make to several of the items of the aforesaid account, and although these objections have not been answered quite so satisfactorily as would have been desirable, Her Majesty's Government, who are anxious to avoid every occasion of disagreement with the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, have determined to proceed to the payment of the sum corresponding to Spain in the general account of expenses of the Mixed Court of Justice at Sierra Leone during the above-mentioned period, in the form in which it has been presented, provided that the English Government, on their part, pay, or agree to their being subtracted from the aforesaid sum, the 3,080 hard dollars which were advanced by Her Majesty's Government to Señor Carrera for account of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty.

With regard to the allusions made by the Government of the United Kingdom, in the course of the correspondence to which the claims in question have given rise, respecting the expediency of modifying Article XI of the Treaty of 1835, for the suppression of the Slave Trade, the Spanish Government have taken them into due consideration, and will bear them in mind at the time whenever the two Governments, by mutual accord, may come to the determination of modifying the aforesaid stipulation.

On having the honour of conveying to you the foregoing information, I avail, &c.  
(Signed) SATURNINO CALDERON COLLANTES.

No. 199.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 18, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith a translation of a note which I received in September last from M. Conte, as Spanish Chargé d'Affaires at this Court, complaining of the manner in which, according to information received by Her Catholic Majesty's Government from the Captain-General of Cuba, the Spanish brig "Ermesinda" had been visited by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx."

I requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to cause an investigation to be made into the circumstances stated in M. Conte's note; and I now inclose a copy of the report which their Lordships have received through the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the West India Station, from Commander Vesey, of Her



Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx,"\* from which you will perceive that the charges brought against the commander of the "Styx" by the Spanish Government are totally unfounded.

I have to instruct you to communicate the particulars of this matter to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to state to his Excellency that Her Majesty's Government must express their regret and surprise that such a groundless charge as that contained in M. Conte's note should have been so inconsiderately made, without attempt at proof, against a British officer, and that Her Majesty's Government cannot but feel that it requires some explanation and apology on the part of the Spanish Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 199.

*Señor Conte to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

(Translation.)

My Lord,

*London, September 4, 1858.*

BY a despatch of the Captain-General of the Island of Cuba, dated the 23rd of June last, the Government of Her Majesty the Queen, my august Sovereign, has been informed of the following occurrences :—

The Spanish brig (polacca) "Ermesinda" has been visited by the English war steamer the "Styx," in a manner as violent as it is unjustifiable. The steamer fired upon the brig twice; the first time in blank, and the second time with ball. The brig, however, had made no attempt to escape, which it was as impossible for her to do as to elude the visit, or search. This proceeding took place in utter disregard of the instructions contained in Article IV of the Treaty of 1835. The captain of the "Styx" did not exhibit any document authorizing him so to act, nor did he enter any note of the transaction in the brig's log-book; he did not even give the name of the vessel under his command.

Lastly, the search lasted one hour and a quarter, and during all the circumstances attending it, the said captain showed himself more anxious to molest and annoy our mercantile marine than to fulfil an indispensable duty.

In bringing, in my turn, these facts to the knowledge of your Excellency, I am instructed by my Government to request that you will cause the officers in command of cruisers to be admonished and reminded of the necessity of an exact fulfilment of the Treaty, in all that relates to the search of vessels.

In the full assurance that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will not disregard the remonstrances made upon this subject by that of the Queen my august Sovereign, I have, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTO CONTE.

No. 200.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 18, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, copies of despatches, as noted in the margin, from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,† on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 201.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, December 16, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch from Mr. Crawford,‡ reporting the capture, by the Spanish war-steamer "General Lezo," of a barque with 600 slaves on board.

\* Class A, No. 198 and Inclosures.

† Nos. 245, 246, and 248.

‡ Class A, No. 36.

No. 202.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 18.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, December 9, 1858.*

IN conformity with the instructions conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 18th ultimo, on the subject of the unfounded charges brought against the commander of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx" by the Captain-General of Cuba, I have addressed a note to M. Calderon Collantes, of which a copy is inclosed herewith for your Lordship's information, acquainting his Excellency with the complete refutation of these charges, contained in the inclosures in your Lordship's despatch; and expressing the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that accusations so inconsiderately made, without an attempt at proof, against a British officer, require some explanation or apology.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

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 Inclosure in No. 202.
*Mr. Buchanan to Señor Collantes.*

Sir,

*Madrid, November 27, 1858.*

IN a note addressed to the Earl of Malmesbury in September last, M. Conte, Her Catholic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in London, complained that, according to information received by his Government from the Captain-General of Cuba, the Spanish polacca-brig "Ermesinda" had been visited by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx," in a manner as violent as it was unjustifiable. He stated that the steamer fired upon the brig twice, the first time in blank and the second time with ball, though the brig had made no attempt to escape, which it was as impossible for her to do as to elude the visit or search.

M. Conte further represented this proceeding to have taken place in utter disregard of the instructions in Article IV of the Treaty of 1835, the captain of the "Styx" not having exhibited any document authorizing him to act, having entered no note of the transaction in the brig's log-book, and not having given the name of the vessel under his command.

Lastly, the search is stated to have lasted an hour and a-quarter, and the captain of the "Styx" is declared, during all the circumstances attending it, to have shown himself more anxious to molest and annoy the Spanish mercantile marine, than to fulfil an indispensable duty.

In consequence of these serious accusations against a British officer, the Earl of Malmesbury requested the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Admiralty to cause an inquiry to be made into the circumstances alleged to have taken place, and their Lordships have received, through the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the West India Station, reports from Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx," and from Lieutenant Gould, the officer employed by him on the occasion referred to, together with an extract from the log-book of Her Majesty's ship, which prove the charges brought by the Spanish Government against the commander of that vessel totally unfounded.

It appears from these reports that the "Ermesinda" was chased eight and a-quarter miles before she was brought-to and examined, having been only overtaken by the employment of steam; and that a period of fifteen minutes elapsed between the firing of the first gun and her showing her colours—a delay in itself suspicious, and sufficient to authorize an officer to act under the Treaty of 1835.

The reports also show that the vessel was not boarded by Commander Vesey, but by Lieutenant Gould, an officer of the "Styx," who was duly provided with all the documents necessary for the purpose: that the master could not produce a manifest of the cargo, that the list of the crew was incorrect, and that the vessel had sailed from her last port without a clearance—a circumstance which would have justified her detention, had there been any disposition on the part of Commander Vesey to annoy the Spanish mercantile marine.

It is also shown that the necessary duty of examining the hold was performed with great forbearance, from an unwillingness on the part of the boarding officer to disturb the cargo; and Lieutenant Gould distinctly states that he offered to make an entry in the log-book that the brig had been detained for examination, and the reasons for doing so, but that the master had declined it.

Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, in forwarding these reports to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Admiralty, observes that he trusts their Lordships will agree with him in considering them entirely satisfactory; adding that he is convinced, from personal observation, that Commander Vesey and Lieutenant Gould are incapable of knowingly molesting or annoying the mercantile marine of any nation, and that he thinks, in justice to those officers, so grave a charge should have been accompanied by a more specific statement of the occurrences complained of.

I have, therefore, been instructed to communicate these particulars to your Excellency; and I am to state that Her Majesty's Government must express their surprise and regret that such a groundless charge as that contained in M. Conte's note should have been so inconsiderately made against a British officer, without an attempt at proof.

In informing your Excellency, at the same time, in conformity with my instructions, that Her Majesty's Government cannot but feel that the charge requires some explanation and apology on the part of Her Catholic Majesty's Government, I avail, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 203.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 18.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, December 9, 1858.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 18th ultimo, transmitting to me copies of despatches from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, dated the 24th, 25th, and 27th of September.

I have had some conversation with M. Calderon Collantes on the fresh proofs which they afford of the impunity with which slave-trading is carried on in Cuba, and of the improbability of the Traffic being suppressed, while the law renders every estate in the island a sanctuary for illegally imported negroes. His Excellency said he had not previously heard of the cargoes reported in Mr. Crawford's despatches to have been lately landed; and he expressed some surprise and indignation at the impunity which persons known to have recently violated the laws against the Slave Trade seem to enjoy at the Havana.

He assured me, however, that immediately after my last representations to him on this subject, of which a report was forwarded to your Lordship in my despatch of the 5th ultimo, he had written to the Captain-General of Cuba, instructing him to offer any suggestions he might think fit, as to the measures which should be adopted for the more effectual suppression of the Trade.

With reference to this subject I may add, that it is now settled that General Ros de Olano shall shortly relieve General Concha, who will probably return to Spain in the course of a few months.

I shall not fail to impress upon General Ros de Olano's consideration the views of Her Majesty's Government on this subject, before his Excellency proceeds to his important command.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 204.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, February 10, 1859.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, copies of despatches as marked in the margin,\* which I have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 205.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 4.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, February 24, 1859.*

HAVING met Señor Calderon Collantes in society soon after receiving your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, I mentioned to his Excellency that I was sorry to learn from its inclosures that large cargoes of negroes continued to be landed with impunity upon the coasts of Cuba. His Excellency said that he could not believe this to be the case, and that he was convinced Mr. Crawford's reports were greatly exaggerated, and founded on insufficient evidence. As he had himself just received an answer from the Captain-General to the inquiries which he addressed to him some time ago, after a conversation with myself, which I reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 2nd of November last.

General Concha, it appears, denies that the trade has been carried on to the extent supposed by Her Majesty's Government, and assures M. Collantes that latterly there have not been more than 4,000 or 5,000 negroes landed annually in the island—a statement which I observed to his Excellency is entirely inconsistent with the number of vessels known to be employed in the Trade, and with the number of negroes captured last year by Her Majesty's cruisers and those of Her Catholic Majesty.

M. Calderon Collantes also informed me that the Captain-General is of opinion that the visit of estates by the police, in search of illegally imported negroes, is so unpopular in the island that if it were legalised, and brought into a system, it might produce universal discontent and serious consequences.

I reminded his Excellency that he had promised to communicate to me the explanations for which he had applied to the Captain-General of Cuba on this subject; and as I asked when I might call upon him to acquaint him with the facts detailed in Mr. Crawford's late correspondence, and to hear what General Concha has to say on the other side, it was arranged that I should do so as soon as the debate on the organization and attributions of the Council of State, with which he is much occupied, is concluded in the Senate.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 206.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Buchanan.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, March 10, 1859.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, under flying seal, a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Consul at Cadiz,\* relative to a vessel stated to have been fitted out at that port, and which has been recently stranded with 800 slaves on board off the port of Humacao, at the east end of the Island of Puerto Rico. And I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Spanish Government to this case, and you will state that Her Majesty's Government confidently expect that stringent inquiries will be made with the view to the punishment of the parties who may have been engaged either in planning this expedition in Puerto Rico or Cuba, or in fitting out the vessel at Cadiz.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 207.

*Mr. Buchanan to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 12.)*

My Lord,

*Madrid, March 3, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to state that M. Calderon Collantes having been called to the Congress of Deputies yesterday, to defend the estimates for his Department, at the hour which he had appointed to receive me at the Foreign Office, left instructions with M. Comyn to allow me to read the despatch from the Captain-General of Cuba therein referred to.

\* No. 20<sup>o</sup>.

As I understand that Señor Isturiz has been directed to make a similar communication to your Lordship, it is unnecessary for me to report the reasons alleged by General Concha for maintaining slavery as an institution in the island, and for limiting repressive measures to the observation of the coasts by a steam squadron. Your Lordship will have observed that the Captain-General speaks as if he had on several occasions dismissed public functionaries whom he believed to have connived at slave-trading, and that he does not consider it expedient to legalize the search of estates—a measure which he had sometimes employed, though contrary to law—because it is not likely to be attended with sufficient advantages to compensate for the inconveniences and inexpediency of proceedings “of a nature,” he says, “to lessen the respect of the slave for his master.” In reply, therefore, to the inquiry addressed to him as to what new powers it might be expedient to confer on a Captain-General, his Excellency limits himself to recommending that the Captain-General should be authorized to exile persons notoriously known to be employed in slave-trading. Your Lordship will also have observed that his Excellency states that he has in his possession correct information respecting every cargo of negroes known to have been landed in the island during his administration, and that he is convinced not more than from 3,000 to 4,000 have been imported annually. He accounts, therefore, for the more serious reports received by Her Majesty’s Government, by supposing that attempts to land negroes have been taken for accomplished facts, and that one cargo has been often multiplied into three, by several attempts having been made to land it before one proved successful.

I told M. Comyn that, even it were admitted that some of the cases reported by Mr. Crawford were apocryphal, the number of vessels captured afforded sufficient evidence that the Captain-General’s estimate of the number of slaves landed was much too low; and I left with him, for confidential communication to M. Calderon Collantes, an abstract, in Spanish, of the inclosures in Mr. Crawford’s despatches of the 28th and 29th December last, which I had intended to read to his Excellency, in order to show that nearly the number of negroes mentioned by General Concha as an average annual importation had been landed in the island last autumn in the course of a few weeks.

Although the Captain-General’s despatch is evidently written for the purpose of defending the Spanish Government against the complaints of Her Majesty’s Government, his Excellency admits the demoralizing effects of the Slave Trade upon the inhabitants; and it may be presumed that he recommends a careful blockade of the coast, as the best means of repressing the Trade, from a conviction that no measures adopted on shore have any chance of success against the organized system of corruption described in Mr. Crawford’s despatch above referred to.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

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SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Cadiz.*

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No. 208.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Brackenbury.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, March 10, 1859.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Puerto Rico,\* containing information respecting the stranding of a barque with 800 slaves on board, off the port of Humacao, at the east end of the Island of Puerto Rico.

You will perceive that the barque in question, which had the name "*Majesté*," or "*Majestad*," on her stern, is stated to have been fitted out at Cadiz; and I have to desire that you will use your best endeavours to ascertain whether this vessel was fitted out at that port, and if so by whom, and you will also report to me any other information or particulars respecting this vessel which you may be able to procure.

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\* No. 264.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana.*

No. 209.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, February 24, 1858.*

WITH reference to that paragraph in my despatch dated the 12th instant,\* which relates to the landing of Bozals recently at Guanimar, a place to the westward of Batabanó, I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General upon that subject.

Your Lordship will see that his Excellency had information thereof and removed the Captain of the District, besides making some other dispositions in that quarter. But what is of most importance in General Concha's letter will at once be manifest to your Lordship, viz., that his Excellency has but one vessel to watch the places where I had indicated that several cargoes of slaves are expected near that locality, and where, as I have since been informed, no less than three cargoes were landed from October to December, the last consisting of 514.

The vessel which brought that expedition, an American-built brigantine, name unknown, was abandoned (by the slavers after they had run the cargo) in the Ensenada Majana, having cut away her masts; and it appears that she was claimed by parties here calling themselves the agents for the American underwriters, by whom she was sold for 3,500 dollars, and is now at Batabano refitted and nearly ready to sail, most probably, upon another voyage to the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 209.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, February 13, 1858.*

I HAVE been informed that a cargo of slaves was landed in October last from a vessel that brought to in the Ensenada of Majana, to the westward of Batabanó. I have also learned that another cargo was recently landed at Guanimar from another vessel, which brought the slaves to the same Ensenada Majana, and that, after they were landed, they were taken to the Yngenio Santa Teresa, in that neighbourhood.

I have also been informed that several more cargoes of Bozals are expected, which are intended to be landed at or near the same place, and I hasten to give your Excellency this intelligence for such purposes as you may find convenient.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 209.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Translation.)

*Havana, February 15, 1858.*

I HAVE received the communication of yesterday's date, which your Honour has addressed to me, making known to me the information which you had acquired of a

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 480.

disembarkation of Bozals effected in the district of Guanimar, as also of several other expeditions which you believe about to reach the island.

In reply I can state to your Honour that the Government had timely intelligence of the disembarkation which occurred at Guanimar, and that in consequence thereof the Captain of the District was removed and various other dispositions were likewise adopted, giving very express orders to all the authorities of the district to redouble their vigilance.

I now give the same orders, having before me the fresh intelligence which your Honour communicates to me, limiting myself thereto as at present. There is only one vessel in a state to be able to watch the places which your Honour mentions in your official letter, but I will adopt the proper measures, so that with the greatest possible despatch may be present a steamer, in order to practise that watchfulness which so important a service demands.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 210.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(Received April 19.)

(Extract.)

*Havana, February 27, 1858.*

THE Norwegian schooner "*St. Olof*" sailed from this port on the 15th instant, for the coast of Africa, to be employed in the Slave Trade.

The "*St. Olof*" is a fine-looking vessel, of about 140 to 150 tons British measurement, and I trust will be fallen in with by some of Her Majesty's cruizers at the coast of Africa.

I cannot conclude this despatch without stating to your Lordship that the sailing of vessels to be employed in the Slave Trade is become a matter of very frequent occurrence. The slave-traders well know that the Spanish cruizers have become quite inefficient, and it may be that they reckon upon the continuance of the absence of British men-of-war, which they have seen for so long a period of late, and so are taking advantage of those favourable circumstances.

No. 211.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

*Havana, February 27, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 13th ultimo,\* acquainting me that Her Majesty's Government had learnt with satisfaction the assurance conveyed to me by General Concha, upon the occasion of my visit to him, on my return to Havana, that he is determined to follow up the course which has for some time been adopted for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which I did myself the honour of reporting to your Lordship in my despatch of the 7th December last.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 212.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

*Havana, February 28, 1858.*

I BEG leave to transmit to your Lordship, herewith inclosed, a translation of the statement of criminal causes for offences committed in connexion with the Cuban Slave Trade, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction conveyed in despatch dated the 13th ultimo, receipt of which I have the honour of acknowledging, and which translation ought to have accompanied the copy in the Spanish language which I forwarded to your Lordship on the 10th December last.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.



## Inclosure in No. 212.

(Translation.)

## STATEMENT of the Criminal Cases instituted in consequence of the seizure of Bozal Negroes in 1857.

Officers by whom the Vessel, &c., were seized, and Place of the Occurrence.	Date of the commencement of the Case.	State of the Proceedings at the present date. (December 5, 1857.)
	1857	
Suspected landing of Bozal negroes near Sierra Morena, in the jurisdiction of Sagua la Grande .. .. .	January 4	Suspended on March 27, 1857
To investigate a landing said to have taken place near Trinidad and Sancti Spiritu. 55 negroes have been seized from various persons .. .. .	March 1	Still pendiag.
Suspected landing of Bozals at the anchorage of Guanaja, in the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe .. .. .	April 8	Suspended on May 18, 1857.
Against Don José Quintero, Don Clemente Hernandez, Don Manuel Quintero, Don Damian Declara, and Don José Oliver, for a suspected landing of Bozals on the coast of Guines .. .. .	July 19	Decided on the 20th October last, acquitting entirely Don José Quintero, Declara, and Oliver, and suspended, for want of proofs, as regards the proceedings instituted in the Alcaldia Mayor of Bejucal, on account of a suspected introduction of Bozals near Batabanó.
Seizure of 29 negroes (Bozals) on the sugar estate Santa Susana <i>alias</i> Figueras, belonging to Don Domingo Aldama, and said to be part of a larger number landed near the entrance of Bacunayagua, jurisdiction of Matanzas .. .. .	July 21	Still pending.
To inquire into a landing of Bozal negroes on the south coast, at Santa Maria, jurisdiction of Puerto Principe ..	July 25	Ditto.
To inquire into a landing of Bozal negroes said to have been effected near Ceja de Pablo and Sierra Morena, jurisdiction of Sagua la Grande .. .. .	August 18	Ditto.
Seizure of 50 Bozal negroes on the sugar estate Sacramento, belonging to Donna Teresa Semanat, and 41 at the entrance of Rotilla, from a landing said to have been effected in the jurisdiction of Jaruco .. .. .	August 29	Ditto.
Against Don José Ramon Polo, and another, for the introduction of 102 Bozal negroes on the south coast, jurisdiction of Principe .. .. .	September 17	Ditto.
For the capture made by Her Majesty's schooner "Cristina" of the barque "Paez" and crew, with 385 Bozal negroes	September 17	Ditto.
Landing of Bozals effected in this harbour near the Punta, by the schooner "Mercedita." 85 negroes have been seized from various persons .. .. .	September 18	Ditto.
Capture of a vessel, with 537 Bozal negroes, by Her Majesty's steamer "Neptune" .. .. .	October 11	Ditto.
Capture of the barque "Vesta," with 169 Bozals, at Lanzanillo, jurisdiction of Remedios, by Her Majesty's schooner "Isabel II" .. .. .	October 20	Ditto.
Capture of 361 Bozals near Guantánamo .. .. .	October 25	Ditto.
Capture of 13 Bozal negroes, a league from the sugar estate Vigilancia, jurisdiction of Sagua la Grande .. .. .	October 28	Ditto.
Capture in the jurisdiction of Cardenas, of the barque "Lexington," with 497 Bozal negroes, by the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Venadito" .. .. .	November 7	Ditto.
Suspected landing of Bozal negroes at Quemado de Güines, jurisdiction of Sagua la Grande .. .. .	November 24	Ditto.

(Signed)

IGNACIO GONR. OLIVARES.

*Havana, December 5, 1858.*

## No. 213.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, March 2, 1858.*

A RUMOUR having reached me that some slaves had been brought into this harbour, and landed at the Carbon Wharf, by three of the little coasting craft employed in

the bringing of carbon for the supply of this city (said to have been upwards of 400), and that they had been all seized by Government, I called on the Captain-General to ascertain the truth. His Excellency informed me that the rumour is wholly unfounded; but he added, that it might have arisen from the fact that, as it had been reported a landing of Bozals had been effected a short distance from this port to the westward, he had sent out officers to inquire, and that they had seized 63 negroes, to all appearance Bozals, the investigation being still carried on.

I need not observe to your Lordship that if the emancipation of captured Africans is to be appealed to the Royal Audiencia, and the decision of that Tribunal is to be upon legal evidence adduced that they are Bozals, it is hardly worth while for the authorities to seize negroes on shore in Cuba, as some parties will always be ready to claim them with schedules and other requisites to defeat the governative decree of the Captains-General.

No. 214.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Clarendon.*—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

*Havana, March 24, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx," with the gun-boat "Jasper" in company, fell in with, and captured on the 21st instant, to the eastward of Havana, a large ship of about 600 tons, fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

The ship, when first seen, displayed Spanish colours, and is, no doubt, the "Emilia," of 590 tons, which vessel was clandestinely cleared for Marseilles, and sailed from this port on the morning of the 21st instant, but, as she was captured without papers or colours, Commander Vesey has sent her to Jamaica for adjudication in the Vice-Admiralty Court.

I have also to report to your Lordship that the same officer has sent into this port a small coasting schooner called the "Juanita," detained on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

This case is now occupying the attention of the Mixed Court, and I shall duly report to your Lordship the result.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 215.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.**Foreign Office, May 27, 1858.*

Sir, WITH reference to your despatch of the 24th of February last, I have to acquaint you that I approve of your having communicated to the Captain-General of Cuba the information which had reached you respecting the landing of two cargoes of slaves in that island, and the anticipated arrival of other slave expeditions; and with regard to that part of your despatch in which you report that an American-built brigantine had been abandoned by the slave-dealers on the Cuban coast after she had landed her cargo of slaves, and that she had been subsequently picked up and claimed by parties at the Havana, calling themselves the agents of the underwriters, I have to state to you that I should be glad to be informed how it happened that a vessel known to have landed slaves in Cuba could have been subsequently claimed by parties in that island, without subjecting the parties claiming her to proceedings on the part of the Spanish authorities, on account of the transaction in which the vessel was engaged.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 216.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.**Foreign Office, May 29, 1858.*

(Extract.)

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Mr. Scarlett, Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro,\* containing information respecting certain proceedings in the River Plate, having reference to the Cuban Slave Trade.

No. 217.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 31.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, May 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 15th ultimo, in consequence of information which I received from Vice-Consul Shiels, of Laguna de Terminos, Yucatan, respecting the reassumed Traffic in kidnapped Indians from that unhappy territory.

Your Lordship will observe by the Captain-General's answer, that this Government "takes the steps which are convenient for ascertaining that the Indians come here contracted of their own free will, and not sold as slaves."

I am, notwithstanding the investigation indicated by his Excellency, very strongly disposed to think, knowing the decided reluctance of the Indian to emigrate, that the Vice-Consul's information is quite correct, and that the abuses which have been revived in Yucatan, are only the carrying into effect of M. Zangroniz' license, or privilege, which was recalled by the Mexican Government, but to which, the present authorities in Yucatan, being in disobedience to Mexico at present, have been induced for the sake of gain, not only to sanction, but assist in carrying out, for the money considerations expressed in my letter to the Captain-General; and so long as such men as Don Martin Peraza are in power in Yucatan, and that territory is in disobedience to the Supreme Government of Mexico, I fear that the Traffic in kidnapped Indians cannot be put an end to.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 217.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, April 15, 1858.*

I HASTEN to acquaint your Excellency that a scheme for carrying on a species of Slave Trade from Yucatan has been entered into by certain persons here, in concert with others who are influential parties at Merida.

These last undertake, for a sum of 50 dollars each, to kidnap as many Indians as they possibly can, and deliver them at Sisal, or Rio de Lagartos, to the agent of the parties here, with their agreements as free colonists, to be sent from thence to this island on board the steamer "Mexico."

In order to make this slave-trading transaction appear to be legal, I am informed that the passports or other papers of these kidnapped Indians, who are thus fraudulently and falsely made to appear as "free colonists," will be *visé* by the Spanish Consul.

I have undoubted information that this arrangement has been entered into by a person whose name is Tison (formerly captain of the steamer "Union"), as agent for the Company, owners of that vessel and the steamer "Mexico," who are engaged in carrying on the steam navigation of the Gulf of Mexico from this port; and Don Martin Peraza, the Governor, or a leading member of the Government at Merida, to whom a large sum of money has been paid by Tison in advance.

Besides the 50 dollars each, which, according to the agreement, the Company of the Gulf steamers, or whoever else it may be that have engaged in this Traffic, are to pay to Don Martin Peraza and the parties at Merida, the sum of 16 dollars is also to be paid for the expenses of passports and maintenance, and conduction from place of capture to the place of shipment, for each Indian.

Of the sum first paid, 6 dollars is to be given to the soldier who catches the Indian: 10 dollars will be given to the soldier's commanding officer; and the remaining 34 is for Don Martin Peraza, or the parties with him concerned.

The distribution of the second sum of 16 dollars I have not learnt; but as it is for *visés* of passports, &c., your Excellency will easily understand its application.

Already 55 of these poor Indians have been brought on here by the steamer "Mexico;" and I understand that upwards of 100 will be ready for her to bring on her next trip, unless this scandalous affair is put a stop to in the meantime.

I am quite aware that when these kidnapped Indians arrive here, they will have all the documents to show that they are free colonists, and have come of their own will and accord, contracted according to law; but your Excellency may be assured that every one

of their contracts is false, and that not one of these poor and much abused people have come willingly to Cuba, but have been seized and sold in the manner I have described.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 217.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Translation.)

*Havana, April 28, 1858.*

BY your Honour's communication of the 15th instant I have been made acquainted with all that your Honour has been pleased to manifest to me respecting the means employed for the embarkation in Yucatan of the 55 emigrants brought by the steamer "Mexico."

And although M. Ignacio Maria Zangroniz has shown, that in order to effect, it he obtained the proper consent of those authorities, as one of the conditions imposed upon him on the permission being granted to him for the introduction of said emigrants, was that of proving, as well by certificates of the Spanish Consul, as by the investigation practised upon their arrival at this port, that they were contracted freely, this Government takes the necessary steps to assure itself that they come under a free contract, and that they are not sold as slaves.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 218.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 31.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, May 8, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 21st ultimo, denouncing the landing of two cargoes of Bozal negroes in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda.

I have not yet received an answer from his Excellency; but in conversation he has informed me that my information turned out to be correct, and that in consequence no less than eight of the authorities of that district were in custody to abide the result of the investigation ordered by his Excellency, and which is going on.

If, however, anything results from the Commission sent upon that service to criminate any of the parties, or indeed anybody whatever, it will be more than we have ever seen upon any former occasion.

The ship which landed the 400 slaves at Ortigosa, alluded to in my letter to General Concha, is said to have been called the "Peruana," and the consignees Don José Plá and Don José Fresneda.

A schooner, having all the proofs of her having recently landed slaves, was picked up abandoned, off the coast of Bahia Honda, a few days ago, and it was probably from her that the other cargo had been run: their number is not ascertained, but may be safely put as exceeding 300.

Excepting some few, found in possession of the authorities, I have not heard that any of the Bozals of these two cargoes have been captured.

Inclosure in No. 218.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba*

*Havana, April 21, 1858.*

IT has come to my knowledge that on Monday the 12th instant a cargo of Bozal negroes was landed in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, and it is said without opposition on the part of the authorities.

The Bozals were taken to the Hacienda Buena Vista, and I have been told that the Municipales of Bahia Honda serve as guides to those who go there to purchase slaves!

On Friday last the 16th instant, another cargo of Bozals was landed, consisting of about 400, at the Boca de Ortigoza, in the same jurisdiction, Partido de San Diego, and were taken on to the property of Don Maximo Arrozaarena.

CLASS B.

The vessel from which the last-mentioned cargo was landed was a ship ("tres palos") which sailed as soon as night had set in; and her crew consisted of twenty persons.

Your Excellency may rely upon the correctness of this information, which I must suppose has already reached this Government.

And I request that your Excellency will be pleased to favour me with the further particulars, in both cases, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 219.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 31.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, May 9, 1858.*

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a translation of a letter which I received from the Captain-General on the 7th instant; and I have the honour also of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a copy of my answer to his Excellency of the same date.

Commander Vesey's orders, referred to in my letter to General Concha, were forwarded to Commander Peel, and to the officer in command of the boat of Her Majesty's sloop "Buzzard," by a Spanish war-steamer.

It is reported that the boat in question entered the harbour of Sagua la Grande, and searched the vessels in that port, and that within the "boca," or mouth of said bay or harbour; the coasting craft were fired at and boarded, thus exercising the right of search within the territory, as well as that at Los Posos and Sierra Morena. The crew of said boat had landed armed, imposing terror amongst the inhabitants.

Knowing how odious it is to these people that our cruizers should be so near their coasts, where they have already made one or two captures, nearly the whole population being (if not engaged in the Traffic) very friendly disposed to those who are, and anxious for their success and prosperity, it is probable that some exaggeration has been made use of in the reports which have been forwarded to the Captain-General and to the Spanish Admiral; but as the service upon which our cruizers are engaged can be carried out quite effectively without aggravating, unnecessarily, the prejudices of the people here—in which opinion Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's sloop "Styx" (the senior officer at present), coincides—his orders have been given, so that if anything of the kind charged by these authorities did occur, no such cause of offence will be given in future.

I have forwarded a copy of the Captain-General's letter, and of my answer, to the Vice-Admiral Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces at Bermuda; and I availed of that opportunity to send to the Admiral a copy of the despatch of yesterday's date, which as Commissary Judge I did myself the honour of addressing to your Lordship, as to the necessity there is for effectually checking and putting an end to the Slave Trade, which is being carried on from this island on a scale so gigantic as could never have been anticipated.

There no doubt exists here a Company with enormous capital engaged in this nefarious Traffic. There no doubt are influential parties connected with that Association upon whom the Company reckon for subornation of the local authorities, they relying on such influential parties for being protected, and for passes and cedulae for the Bozals whenever a landing is effected. Suspicion would easily point at such influential parties who have become enormously and suddenly rich; but proofs of their connivance could never be obtained.

But your Lordship may be assured that there is such an organization as requires the exertion of extraordinary means to counteract and defeat. There is, in my opinion, but one way for effecting this, and that is, to surround the island by swift-sailing cruizers of light draught of water, in numbers sufficient to render it impossible for the slavers to escape capture.

The abuse of the American flag to cover this abominable Traffic has become so great as to be almost universal; the dodge (to use the expression) has been had recourse to because of the exemption from search which the United States' Government pretend to and insist upon. But if that flag is to be a cloak for such nefarious purposes, and continues to be prostituted to the carrying on of the Slave Trade in the manner it is, and has been for some time past, the good sense of the American Government will surely devise the means of correcting such a shameful abuse of the national banner as is now almost every day to be seen here in turning American vessels into slavers, retaining their flag and papers.

Inclosure 1 in No. 219.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Translation.)

*Havana, May 6, 1858.*

THE official reports which I have received that some vessels of war of Her Britannic Majesty are exercising acts in the persecution of the Slave Trade on the coasts of this island in evident violation of the existing Treaties, oblige me to address myself to your Honour with this communication, in order to record my protest against them, and to prevent in time the consequences which might arise from their repetition.

The Treaty between Her Majesty the Queen of Spain and Her Majesty of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the abolition of the Slave Trade, signed at Madrid the 28th of June, 1835, provides, in the first paragraph of Article IV, that the right of search shall never be exercised except by vessels of war authorized expressly for this object, as it is stipulated in this Treaty, and the second paragraph of Article V, that each of the High Contracting Powers shall, from time to time, communicate to the other the names of the several ships employed in that service.

No notice has been given to the Superior Government of the island, and I must believe that none has been given to that of Her Majesty, as I have not received any advice thereof, that the steam-sloop "Buzzard," the "Styx," and some other vessels whose names I am ignorant of, are thus employed, and which, without these necessary requisites called for by the Treaty, have exercised the right of search in the waters of this island, and have committed acts which are in no way authorized by the Treaty.

The Treaty provides, in the second paragraph of Article IV, that whenever a merchant-vessel is searched by a ship of war, the Commander of the said ship shall, in the act of so doing, exhibit to the commander of the merchant-vessel the document by which he is duly authorized to that end, and shall deliver to him a certificate, signed by him, with all the rest specified in the form in which that search should be carried out, when made by an officer of the cruizer, who, as it is terminantly stipulated in the same paragraph, and as it is repeated in Article II of Annex A, must not be of less rank than that of Lieutenant of the Royal Navy, or of the second in command of the ship that makes the the search.

These stipulations have not been observed in all the searches made of which I have heard, and it is contrary to them to have authorized the mate, Mr. Broughton, of the steamer "Buzzard," to command a boat, armed with a gun, to make these searches.

But what constitutes not only an infraction of the Treaty, but a violation of territory and a grave national offence, is the fact which, by telegraph, the Captain of the Port of Sagua communicates to his Excellency the Commandant-General of Marine of this station, that the evening of the day before yesterday the vessels at anchor in that port were searched by an English man-of-war's boat, which afterwards went away, and I must suppose that it is the same boat of the "Buzzard" which, according to another communication I have just received from the Lieutenant-Governor of Sagua, fired at a coasting-schooner at the entrance of the bay.

In view of such acts, and reserving to the Government of Her Majesty to claim proper satisfaction, I have been obliged to give orders to the Military Commandants of the island to prevent their repetition, and I hope that this will be avoided by your Honour's giving notice of this communication to the Commanding Officer of Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Forces, as I have no doubt that he will give the most stringent orders to his subordinates that, in persecution of the reprobated Traffic in Slaves, they observe strictly all the stipulations of the existing Treaty.

God preserve, &amp;c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 219.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, May 7, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of yesterday, which was delivered to me this morning.

I shall avail myself of the earliest opportunity for laying a copy thereof before Her

Majesty's Government, and I shall transmit a copy to the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the West India Station.

But in the mean time I hasten to assure your Excellency that such excesses as have been reported to you as having been committed by the boats or cruizers of Her Majesty would be highly disapproved of; and I have to state to your Excellency, that I lost not a moment in sending for and communicating with Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx" (accidentally in this harbour), upon the subject of your letter; and I have the satisfaction of acquainting your Excellency that the commander, as senior officer of Her Majesty's cruizers on the north side of this island, has given orders which I trust will prevent a repetition of the acts complained of by your Excellency, if, indeed, such acts have been committed as are ascribed to the launch of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Buzzard" at Sagua.

I cannot suppose that Her Majesty's Government has failed to observe the important condition required by the first paragraph of Article IV of the Treaty of 1835.

But to supply the omission of that notice, which, it appears, has not been communicated to your Excellency, I have the honour of acquainting your Excellency that the following of Her Majesty's vessels are at present employed in the suppression of Slave Trade on the Coast of Cuba, viz.:—"Styx," steamer, Commander Vesey; "Buzzard," steamer, Commander Peel; "Basilisk," steamer, Commander Phayre; "Forward," gun-boat, Lieutenant-Commander Davies; "Jasper," gun-boat, Lieutenant-Commander Pym; "Jaseur," gun-boat, Lieutenant-Commander Scott; "Skipjack," gun-boat, Lieutenant-Commander Murray; and I believe that all these vessels are properly authorized to exercise the right of search according to the Treaty.

I also venture to assure your Excellency, that upon every occasion whenever that right has been exercised, the officers employed have been furnished with such credentials as are required, and that they have in every respect complied with the Treaty stipulations.

With respect to what your Excellency remarks, that the boat of Her Majesty's ship "Buzzard," at Sagua, was commanded by a mate, and not by an officer of the rank required by the Treaty, I must infer that Mr. Broughton, mate of that ship, was detached to watch at Sagua, owing to the indisposition or other inability of the lieutenant, who would otherwise have performed that service.

I have no doubt, however, that whatever may have occurred will be strictly investigated by the Commander-in-chief upon the receipt of these despatches.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 220.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, June 11, 1858.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the letter which you addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, denouncing the landing of two cargoes of slaves on the coasts of that island.

In your other despatch of the 8th ultimo\* you represent that the unheard-of extent of the outfits for slave-trading require unusual efforts to check this abominable Traffic, and you recommend that, with this view, Her Majesty's Government should send out two or three 6-gun steam-vessels and about ten gun-boats on each side of the island.

I have to state to you that it is quite impossible that Her Majesty's Government can comply with your suggestions on this matter, nor is it desirable, if Her Majesty's Government had the means of doing so, that they should take upon themselves a service which it is the duty of the Spanish authorities to perform.

I have to desire that you will seek an interview with the Captain-General of Cuba, and that you will earnestly represent to his Excellency the necessity of some more stringent measures being adopted to guard against the equipment of vessels for the Slave Trade in Cuban ports, and also to prevent the landing of slaves on the coasts of that island.

You will state that whilst Her Majesty's Government acknowledge that the small squadron which his Excellency caused to be equipped during the past year did good service

\* Class A, No. 31.

in the suppression of the Slave Trade, they regret to learn that even the small force of which it was composed is no longer effective for the service on which it should be employed. You will add, that Her Majesty's Government cannot for one moment admit that it is impossible to put down the Cuban Slave Trade if the Spanish authorities are in earnest in their endeavours to do so, and proper measures are adopted for the purpose, because they have seen what the Brazilian Government has been able to do under similar circumstances.

With a demand for slaves equalling, if not exceeding, that in Cuba, and with a coast to guard of greater extent and less inhabited than Cuba, they have been able completely to put a stop to the importation of slaves into Brazil; and what the Brazilian authorities have been able to accomplish, Her Majesty's Government will not believe that the Spanish authorities are not able also to perform.

The Spanish Government have engaged by Treaty to put a stop to the Cuban Slave Trade, and they are bound in honour to fulfil their engagement; and you will state to the Captain-General that, if he has not sufficient powers to enable him to give effect to the desire which Her Majesty's Government believe him to entertain of suppressing this Traffic, he should apply to his Government for more ample powers, and such representations on his part would be earnestly supported by Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Madrid.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 222.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, June 11, 1858.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 9th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the letter addressed by you to the Captain-General of Cuba, in reply to one which you received from his Excellency complaining of the proceedings of a boat belonging to one of Her Majesty's cruisers, which is stated to have entered the port of Sagua la Grande, and to have boarded and searched all the vessels in that port, and also to have fired at a coasting-schooner at the entrance of the bay or harbour; and I inclose, for your information and guidance, a copy of a letter which, by my directions, has been addressed to the Board of Admiralty on the subject.

I have also to acquaint you that I approve of your having communicated copies of your correspondence with the Captain-General on this matter to the Admiral commanding in the West Indies.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 223.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 3.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, June 9, 1858.*

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I considered it my duty to address to Lord Napier, transmitting to him the inclosures therein referred to, which would enable his Lordship to show the American Government, if he deemed it expedient so to do, that certain grievances complained of as having been committed by Her Majesty's cruisers, especially that of Sagua, had been promptly attended to, and that any repetition of such excess of zeal, if in reality the boats of our cruisers had gone in to search vessels in that harbour, had been forbidden by Commander Vesey, the senior officer of Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of the north side of this island.



Inclosure in No. 223.

*Consul-General Crawford to Lord Napier.*

(Extract.)

*Havana, June 1, 1858.*

I HAVE seen in the American papers within the last few days received here, that much agitation prevails in the United States in consequence of Her Majesty's cruizers employed for the suppression of the Slave Trade in these waters, having occasionally visited American vessels, and much importance seems to be attached to a complaint of a boat belonging to one of Her Majesty's ships having boarded some American vessels in the port of Sagua in this island.

It would be useless for me to state to your Lordship, as I nevertheless do, that the complaints which have been made to the United States' Government are much exaggerated, and that circumstances of an aggravating nature have been related which never occurred. The conduct of our naval officers, very unfavourably misrepresented in the statements which have reached the United States' Government, has been just the reverse of what the masters of the American vessels complain, to whom they have shown every courtesy in the performance of a disagreeable duty.

I have the honour of transmitting herewith to your Lordship a copy of a despatch\* which I addressed to the Earl of Malmesbury, accompanied with copies of the inclosures to which it refers. Your Lordship will see by that despatch that as soon as the complaint reached me as to the alleged acts of the officer of the "Buzzard's" boat at Sagua, I obtained from Commander Vesey, the senior officer, an order for the boat to retire, and I learn from the Captain-General that as soon as the order reached the officer commanding said boat, he did retire, and that no more cause of offence has been given.

I must, however, advert to the abuse of the flag of the United States in carrying on the Slave Trade. Indeed, it is only under that flag that slave-trading in this island is carried on, and I am convinced that the Government, which appears to be so anxious to maintain the scruples of its people with regard to the exercise of the right of search, seeing that immunity has led to the prostitution of the flag of the American Union to the vilest purposes of slave-trading, to which Americans lend themselves illegally for the purpose of gain, will devise some enactment to put a stop to such practices under the American flag, as have been for some time going on in connexion with the Slave Trade, and which form a just cause of complaint on the part of all the nations which are pledged to the extinction of the Slave Trade.

Mixed as the flag of the United States is with this horrid Traffic, our cruizers can do but little good in its prevention, if every vessel that is fallen in with shows an American ensign, and is, consequently, to be exempted from examination, whether rightly carrying that ensign or not.

It therefore behoves the United States to maintain a fleet in these waters, with orders to visit and strictly examine all American vessels in order to detect such as are engaged in the African Slave Trade, and enforce the enactments against American citizens who engage in it, or are in any way connected therewith, extending the penalties to Americans connecting themselves with slave-trading in foreign countries.

No. 224.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 3.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, June 9, 1858.*

I HASTEN to lay before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I received from the Captain-General yesterday, and also a copy of my answer of the same date.

General Concha intimated to me, two or three days ago, his intention to restrict the limits of visit and search by our cruizers, and showed me the Spanish law which prescribes as a sort of "hovering distance," that of six miles from the coasts or cays; upon which I observed that that law would apply to revenue regulations, and that a suspicious vessel with contraband found on board would be liable to detention if found hovering within that distance, but that the British cruizers employed for prevention of Slave Trade would, I considered, be entitled to come wherever Spanish cruizers exercised the right of search, excepting always the ports and harbours, and within the range of the forts or batteries of

No. 219.

the coast, but that I presumed Her Majesty's cruizers would chase, drive on the shore, and there destroy any slave-trader, but that they would not land to capture the slaves on the Spanish territory, a duty which the authorities would be expected to perform; and that, for that purpose, in any such event our cruizers would endeavour to give the earliest notice possible to the local authorities; but that in the instructions issued to Her Majesty's naval officers, there were no limits prescribed than those which are mentioned in the Treaty.

By the "Devastation" I have forwarded a copy of his Excellency the Captain-General's communication, and of my answer thereto, to the Vice-Admiral Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

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Inclosure 1 in No 224.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Translation.)

*Havana, June 8, 1858.*

IN a communication which, on the 6th of last month, I had occasion to address to your Honour, in consequence of acts contrary to the Treaties and offensive to the national rights committed by the vessels of war of Her Britannic Majesty on the coasts of this island engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade, I endeavoured to prevent in time the consequences which might result from a repetition of such acts, and in acknowledging the receipt you informed me that you would acquaint the Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies; and in the meantime your Honour and the Commander of the "Styx," Senior Officer of the said cruizers on the North Coast of this Island, expressed to me that those excesses would be highly disapproved.

Subsequently I have received the legal proofs of the acts which gave rise to the said communication, and of the searches made within the cays, and in the territorial waters of this island, where only Spanish vessels of war can exercise such acts of jurisdiction over merchant-vessels, whether national or foreign, who, under such circumstances, might appeal to the authorities of the island, for the protection which is due to them against the exercise of such acts by the vessels of war of any other nation. Besides which, complaints have very justly been made, that in the examination and search of many vessels by the cruizers of Her Britannic Majesty, not only have the conditions of the existing Treaty of 1835 not been observed, and that they have forgotten all that is inculcated in the 3rd paragraph of Article IV, but that they have, without reason, fired cannons, with ball, at small and defenceless craft, who could not even think of eluding their persecution and visit, accompanying this with personal demonstrations as unjustifiable as they are contrary to the spirit of the Treaties, which so strongly recommend moderation, and the conduct which ought to be observed between friendly nations. Of all these acts which I have indicated to your Honour, I give a detailed account to Her Catholic Majesty's Government; but I persuade myself that with the knowledge of them, through you, the Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies will give orders to observe in all things what is prescribed by the Treaty, in the examination and search of Spanish merchant-vessels outside the cays and territorial waters of the Island of Cuba, and that within these they will respect, as they ought, the seniorial rights of Spain. The said Commander-in-chief may be assured that the authorities of the island, and the Commanders of Her Catholic Majesty's ships will proceed to examine and search every vessel suspected of being a slaver, which arrives at these coasts, and which might be taken for such by Her Britannic Majesty's cruizers; and in order the more to facilitate their vigilance beyond the cays and territorial waters of the island, I have given orders that inside of these, and upon all the coast, the greater part of the ships of war upon this station shall go out to cruize, in addition to the smaller forces destined especially for that service.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

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## Inclosure 2 in No. 224.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, June 8, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's communication of this day's date. I have transmitted a copy to the Vice-Admiral, Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces in the West Indies, and I shall, by the mail-steamer to-morrow, lay your Excellency's letter before Her Majesty's Government.

It is not for me to anticipate the conclusion which may be come to upon the question raised by your Excellency, as to the limits you consider should be prescribed to the British cruizers employed around this island, for prevention of the Slave Trade. The Treaty of 1835 designates the limits within which the search of British or Spanish vessels by cruizers of either nation may be exercised; any other than those would, I presume, be subject of special Convention between the High Contracting Parties.

I feel it my duty, however, to notice your Excellency's charges of non-observance of the 3rd paragraph of the IVth Article of the Treaty, by Her Majesty's cruizers, which I am not prepared to admit; but if there has been any want of formality in that respect, the matter will not escape the notice of the Commander-in-chief.

With regard to the useless display of force by discharging cannons, and with ball, at defenceless vessels, accompanying those by personal demonstrations unjustifiable and contrary to the spirit of the Treaties, such conduct is so derogatory to the character of British officers, that I must suppose any such complaint an unjust exaggeration, and an attempt to impose upon your Excellency.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

## No. 225.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 21, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid,\* stating that he had been informed by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the Spanish Government intended to increase their squadron in the Cuban waters.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 226.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 31, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, the accompanying correspondence, in copy and extract, which has passed between Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid and myself, on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.†

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

## No. 227.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 2.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, June 17, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, in consequence of a despatch which was addressed to Commander Vesey by Commodore Kellett, C. B., commanding Her Majesty's

\* No. 176.

† Nos. 175 and 177.

ships and vessels at Port Royal, Jamaica, and, by the commander, communicated to me, embodying a list of Her Majesty's ships upon this station, the captains or commanders of which have been furnished with warrants for the suppression of the Slave Trade. And I have also the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy and translation of his Excellency's answer of this date.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 227.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.*

*Havana, June 16, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I have this day received a letter from Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's steam-ship "Styx," which is as follows:—

*"Styx," off Havana, June 16, 1858.*

"In pursuance of instructions from Commodore Kellett, C.B., I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the Captain-General of Cuba, that the captains of the ships named in the subjoined list are furnished with warrants for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and that all and any of them, in turn, may be employed on the coast of Cuba."

I hasten to communicate this information to your Excellency, and to subjoin a copy of the list of Her Majesty's vessels, the captains of which are furnished with the requisite papers under the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade, any or all of which vessels may be employed on the coast of this Island.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

LIST referred to in the above letter.

Name.	Guns.	Captain.	Name.	Guns.	Captain.
Indus .. ..	78	Captain Hay.	Basilisk .. ..	6	Commander Phayre.
Imaum .. ..	72	Commander Grant.	Buzzard .. ..	6	Commander Peel.
Cuba, schooner .. ..	..	Lieutenant Commanding	Styx .. ..	6	Commander Vesey.
Tartar .. ..	20	Captain Dunlop.	Jaseur .. ..	2	Lieutenant Scott.
Leopard .. ..	18	Captain Wainwright.	Jasper .. ..	2	Lieutenant Pym.
Arachne .. ..	18	Commander Inglefield.	Forward .. ..	2	Lieutenant Davies.
Atalanta .. ..	16	Commander Pasley.	Skipjack .. ..	2	Lieutenant Murray.
Devastation . . .	6	Commander Wake.			

Inclosure 2 in No. 227.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

*Havana, June 17, 1858.*

(Translation.)  
I HAVE received your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, inclosing a list of the vessels of war of Her Britannic Majesty, authorized to cruise against the Slave Trade, and I say this to your Honour in reply thereto.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 228.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 2.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, June 24, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 27th ultimo, in which your Lordship acquaints me that my letter to the Captain-General upon the subject of the Slave Trade operations at Guanamar, which I reported in my despatch of the 24th of February last, had your Lordship's high approval, and that you would be glad to be informed how it happened that a vessel known to have landed slaves in Cuba could have been subsequently claimed by parties in that island, without subjecting the parties claiming her to proceedings on the part of the Spanish authorities, on account of the transaction in which the vessel was engaged.

In answer, I can only state to your Lordship that such laxity on the part of the authorities must be attributed to their connivance in the slaving transaction. The vessel in question was found abandoned; she was claimed, as I understand, by the agents of the American underwriters of Boston and New York, who sold her as a "derelict." She turned out to be the brigantine "Crimea," and as there were no proofs that a cargo of slaves had been landed from her, there was no opposition to the claimants taking possession, and probably, the whole affair was in connivance with the slave-traders, as she was purchased by Lavandeira, who was, it is surmised, connected with her previous expedition to Africa.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 229.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 2.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, June 25, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, transmitting copies of a despatch and of its inclosures from Her Majesty's Minister at Rio de Janeiro, containing information respecting certain proceedings in the River Plate, having reference to the Cuban Slave Trade.

Rivarozza and Salvador de Castro are both notorious slave-traders, and as such are known to the Spanish authorities. The latter has been under arrest, and on trial before the Royal Audiencia more than once, and he had, owing to that annoyance, resolved to leave the island, but I heard lately that either he or his son had returned to Trinidad.

However, unless the original letters, copies of which were obtained by Mr. Scarlett, were in the hands of the Spanish authorities, along with the account of sale referred to, and unless they could be proved against De Castro, they only serve to confirm what is notorious already with regard to his connexion with the Portuguese and Brazilian slavers.

No. 230.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 2.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, July 1, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship the copy of a letter which, on the 31st May, I addressed to the Captain-General, respecting a landing of slaves, which was effected about ten days previously, between Baracoa and Cape Maysi, from a vessel, ship or barque-rigged, which first landed a boat's crew to the eastward of Baracoa, who were captured, and after the landing of her cargo of Bozals at or near to Baracoa, which was effected through the agency of a certain Señor Moñés, she left another boat and boat's crew at Baracoa in the manner stated by me to his Excellency.

As yet I have not received any answer from General Concha, but he has verbally informed me that my information was incorrect, because the Lieutenant-Governor of Baracoa, who came on here by the coasting steamer "Pelayo," at the same time as Señor Moñés and the boat's crew referred to in my letter had informed his Excellency that no such landing took place; and even more, that it was impossible to have been the case, as in that part of the island there are no roads nor the means of subsisting the slaves.

He, however, admitted the fact of the arrest and detention of the boat's crew first landed, who, it was said, had come in search of provisions, and were left because they overstayed their time on shore.

I requested to know how it was that the other boat's crew that came on by the "Pelayo" had not been captured and examined. That, his Excellency informed me, he did not consider necessary, having the assurance of the Lieutenant-Governor that no such disembarkation had taken place.

But I can assure your Lordship that my information is perfectly true, and that this is only another of the many cargoes of slaves which have been introduced into this island by the most shameful connivance of the authorities.

I have no certain account of the number of Bozals landed upon the occasion referred to; but from the fact of the slaver being ship or barque-rigged, and her having two boats and boat's crews that she could spare, I estimate her at being over 300 tons, and that she must have brought at least 800.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 230.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.*

*Havana, May 31, 1858.*

I HAVE received information, upon which I can rely, that a cargo of slaves was landed between Cape Maysi and Baracoa about ten days ago; and I understand that a boat, with four men and one of the mates, which was sent on shore previous to the landing of the slaves, was seized by the Capitan de Partido.

The five men captured are Spaniards.

It is said that this cargo was brought by a vessel, ship or barque-rigged, and that the arrangements for landing the Bozals were made by an agent, a resident of Baracoa, with the Subdelegado de Marina.

It is also said that upon the process raised in consequence of the seizure of this slaver's boat and the capture of the boat's crew, it is made to appear that they had landed from a vessel engaged in lawful commerce, for the purpose of obtaining provisions, and that, having staid too long on shore, they were left behind; whereas the truth is that they landed to communicate with the agent in order to make arrangements for landing the Bozals from on board the slave-ship to which they belonged, and were part of her crew.

It is also said that another boat and boat's crew were left on shore by the same slaver, and the crew of that boat came on to this port of Havana by the coasting steamer "Pelayo," on board of which vessel they were hidden; because, having belonged to the slave-ship in question, they were afraid of detection.

The boat first seized is still detained, and the crew, I believe, are still prisoners.

I have also heard that the agent alluded to as having arranged the landing of this cargo of Bozals came on here by the "Pelayo," which arrived in this port on Saturday night last.

But I have no doubt that these important circumstances are already known to your Excellency; and I beg the favour of your informing me whether any of the Bozals landed from the ship I have mentioned have been captured by the officers under your Excellency's orders, and such other particulars as may be important for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 231.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 2.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, July 1, 1858:*

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that Her Majesty's steam-ship "Devastation," bearing the broad pennant of first class, Commodore Kellett, C.B., arrived here on the 27th ultimo from Jamaica, and as the officer commanding Her Majesty's ships and vessels at this part of the West India Station, the Commodore has retired the cruisers

from both sides of Cuba, that were employed for some time past in suppressing the Slave Trade.

In consequence of these orders, I lost no time in addressing Lord Napier, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, acquainting his Lordship of this determination.

The most deplorable effects are to be anticipated from this measure, as well as from the immunity conceded to the American flag, since the door is thrown open for the slave-traders to carry on the Traffic to the extent they please to use the privileged flag.

And already from Cardenas and from Matanzas we hear of vessels in preparation—subscriptions going the round for slave-trading expeditions; and an impulse has been given to the detestable Traffic corresponding to the security with which those who engage in such adventures now calculate their gains.

Experience has shown that every cargo of slaves that reaches the shores of Cuba is landed. This is contrary to the law and to the Treaty; but we have yet to know that any one has been punished for such offences. In a country like this, it is impossible to obtain evidence to convict a slave-trader or his accomplices.

I do not abandon my assertion that it depends upon the Captain-General of Cuba to put an end to the Slave Trade, and to check the disgraceful venality of his subordinates, by practising an uncompromising severity towards those who lend themselves to connivance with desperate and demoralized slave-traders. But the Captain-General alleges that his authority is limited, and insufficient to deal with such offences, which are to be tried before the civil authorities of the Royal Audiencia, according to the Penal Law which was passed after the Treaty of 1835, as therein stipulated. That law is so defective, and its stipulations such as to be more a protection than a terror to those who come under its provisions, because they know that legal proofs cannot be obtained in this community to convict slave-traders or their accomplices.

In order to make the Captains-General of Cuba responsible for the suppression of the Slave Trade, they should be invested with power, gubernatively, to punish and degrade the inferior officers who implicate themselves in slave-trading, and besides, to fine, imprison, and send away from the island all slave-traders and their accomplices. And for the faithful performance of their duties in these respects, they should be held responsible, under penalty of removal from office and degradation of rank.

Could such an arrangement be made, your Lordship may be assured that there would be an end of slave-trading in Cuba; whilst, upon the other hand, under present circumstances, there is not the exercise of any check upon it, except the price paid for its impunity.

No. 232.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received August 2.)

My Lord,

*Havana, July 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a letter which, on the 21st ultimo, I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, relative to the landing at Cardenas of 900 slaves, which took place a few days previous to the date of my denouncement.

I have not as yet received an answer from his Excellency; but, verbally, he has admitted to me the truth of the information.

The circumstances of this infraction of the Law and of the Treaty were of the most shameful nature. So large a body of slaves could never have been landed upon the wharf at Cardenas without the most audacious connivance of the Spanish authorities, and it is stated that they were sent off to the country duly provided with cedulas for their protection, which are to be purchased in Cardenas at from 1½ to 2 doubloons (5*l.* to 7*l.* 10*s.*) each.

I have reason to believe that these Bozals were landed from the Spanish ship "*Iberia*," commanded by the notorious Don Eugenio Viñas, and that Don Julian Zulueta is interested in the expedition, as to his estate the negroes proceeded from Cardenas, and the Captain-General informed me he had given orders to search for them there—a measure which I am confident will be productive of no other result than similar acts at other places exercised in connivance with the officers who are employed on such service.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 232.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, June 21, 1858.*

I HAVE been informed that a very large landing of Bozals has been effected lately in the port of Cardenas—the number stated is 900; and as I consider that it is impossible such infraction of the laws could take place without its being reported to your Excellency, I request that you will let me know, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whether the intelligence which I have received is true, and such particulars as may have reached your Excellency upon this subject.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 233.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 1.)**Havana, July 8, 1858.*

My Lord,

THE impulse which has been given to slave-trading by the retiring of our cruisers from these waters, and more so because of its being known that the American flag will cover any species of cargo, has even exceeded what I had anticipated would be the effect of those measures.

From this port the expeditions have been numerous, as your Lordship will readily perceive by the following list of sailings and fitting out of vessels at this place, all under the American flag, within the last three weeks.

Sailed:—

Barque "General Green," 242 tons; schooner "Austin," 132 tons; barque "Lyra," 207 tons; brig "Brothers," 142 tons.

Said to be fitting out:

Schooner "Fannie," 261 tons; schooner "Zephyr," 77 tons.

Three or four more at Matanzas, and several at Cardenas, all American.

But if such be the activity displayed here in Cuba, how many more slavers will have been purchased and dispatched from the ports of the United States?

Here in Havana there occurred, two nights ago, a transaction of the most audacious character committed by the slave-traders.

The brigantine "*A. C. Perkins*," 176 tons, under American colours, which reported inwards from Campeche on the 30th May last, was known to have landed a cargo of slaves, and that the entry inwards was a false one. She was entered outwards for San Thomas, and her clearance was refused at the United States' Consulate because of the information the Acting Consul had received of the previous voyage and her present equipment. It is said that 1,000 dollars were offered to Mr. Savage, the Acting Consul-General, for the "*A. C. Perkins*" clearance, but it was refused, and then the parties interested proceeded to take out of her the provisions and fittings for the slave-voyage, but were detected, and the launch that had them on board was seized by the coast guard at night. The next morning the vessel was discovered sunk, having been scuttled, and the master and crew had disappeared.

I propose sending a copy of this despatch to Lord Napier, at Washington, that should his Lordship think proper he may use the information it contains in showing to the United States' Government how the slave-traders are being aided and abetted by American citizens, and their flag prostituted to the vilest purposes.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 234.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 14.)**Havana, July 22, 1858.*

(Extract.)

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the barque "*Lyra*," which sailed from this port about ten days ago, under American colours, to be employed in the



Slave Trade, put into Key West, where she has been seized by the Collector of the Customs as a slaver.

The master is said to have abandoned the "*Lyra*," and made his escape, carrying with him the money (said to have been 30,000 dollars) put on board here for the purchase of her cargo of negroes.

The brigantine "*A. C. Perkins*," which was sunk in this harbour under the circumstances described in my last number, has been raised, and is hauled in to the wharf, undergoing investigation by the Spanish authorities, in combination with the American Pro-Consul.

Information having reached the Brigadier-Governor of Havana, Don José Ignacio Echavarria, that the American brig "*Nancy*," of 219 tons, was taking in her equipments, and was about to be dispatched to be employed in the Slave Trade, said vessel was seized in the night between the 16th and 17th instant, it is said in the moment of her having part of her slave-fittings put on board. The crew found in the vessel have been imprisoned, and the affair is undergoing investigation by the Spanish authorities.

A certain Señor Gerediaga, who has been extensively engaged in the Slave Trade at this place for some time past, has also been placed in confinement by these authorities.

Mr. Consul Forbes, of Santiago de Cuba, reports the sailing from that port of the brig "*Juliet*," under American colours, the 25th ultimo, bound for the Coast of Africa, to be employed in Slave Trade. She took 180 puncheons of water, marked "*Sta. Maria*," 150 barrels of biscuit, 50 barrels of pork, and 50 bags of rice, in the way of provisions, but was cleared as having a cargo of sugar and rum for Macao.

Mr. Vice-Consul da Costa, of date the 7th instant, reports the sailing of the American brig "*Rufus Soule*" from Matanzas, to be employed in the Slave Trade.

The American fore-and-aft-rigged schooner "*Castor*," about 263 tons, arrived at this port a few days ago from New York. She is, I hear, for sale; and being admirably adapted for Slave Trade, I presume she will be bought, and sent to the Coast of Africa to supply the place of some of those which have been captured.

No. 235.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, August 31, 1858.*

WITH reference to your despatches of the 1st, 2nd, and 8th ultimo, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, upon the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade.\*

I am &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 236.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, August 31, 1858.*

I HAVE to acquaint you that I transmitted to the Colonial Office an extract of that part of your despatch of the 3rd of February last which relates to the facilities stated to be afforded by the American Consul, and by the small fishing-vessels at the Cayman Islands, to the Cuban slave-traders, and I requested that a searching investigation might be made with a view to ascertain what foundation there was for the reports in question.

Governor Darling is of opinion that the reports that have reached you on this subject are without foundation, and he considers it impossible that Mr. Eden, the American Consul at the Caymans, should have countenanced or have been engaged in Slave Traffic.

Governor Darling further states that the only case that could have given rise to such allegations is that of the American vessel "*Nehemiah Hand*" (or "*N. Hand*"), which occurred in 1856; and I have accordingly to desire that you will endeavour to ascertain whether it was the case of that vessel which gave rise to the rumours of Mr. Eden's proceedings, and those of the Caymans people, or whether there were other cases which may have led to the reports in question.

No. 237.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 1.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, July 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 11th ultimo, and I am highly gratified by your Lordship's approval of the letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba respecting the two cargoes of slaves which were landed in the district of Bahia Honda.

I have received, with all due respect, your Lordship's determination with regard to what I suggested in my despatch of the 11th ultimo, would be necessary to put down the enormously increased Slave Trade, which is being carried on by, and in connection with, those engaged in the abominable Traffic here in Cuba, and that it is the duty of the Spanish authorities to put an end thereto; Her Majesty's Government not admitting for one moment that it is impossible for them to destroy that detestable and demoralizing Trade in human flesh, which continues to degrade the Spanish nation and people.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction, I have sought and obtained an interview with his Excellency the Captain-General, and I have communicated to him your Lordship's despatch, which now engages my attention. I have pressed the necessity of the most stringent measures being adopted to guard against the equipment of vessels for the Slave Trade in Cuban ports, and also to prevent the landing of slaves on the coasts of this island; stating that whilst Her Majesty's Government acknowledges that the small squadron which his Excellency caused to be employed during the past year did good service in the suppression of the Slave Trade, they regret to learn that even that small force is no longer effective for the purpose on which it should be engaged.

I added that Her Majesty's Government could not for one moment admit that it is impossible to put down the Cuban Slave Trade. On the contrary, that if the Spanish authorities were in earnest in their endeavours to do so, and if proper measures were adopted and enforced for that purpose, it would be easy for them to effect that which the Brazilian Government had been able to do so under similar, or even more difficult circumstances.

I represented to his Excellency that the Brazilian Government, with a demand for slave-labour equalling, if not exceeding that in Cuba, with a coast to guard of greater extent and less inhabited than Cuba, had completely put a stop to the importation of slaves into that country, and that Her Majesty's Government would not believe that that which the Brazilians had accomplished could not be done by the Spanish Government, who have engaged by Treaty to put a stop to the Slave Trade, and are bound in honour to fulfil their engagement.

His Excellency seemed to be unwilling to admit that the difficulties of the Brazilian Government were at all equal to those with which he had to battle here in Cuba. He reiterated his determination of putting down the Traffic to the extent of his power and ability, but he expressed his conviction that its extermination was not possible, as every inhabitant almost viewed the Slave Trade as necessary to their prosperity, were favourably disposed to its continuance, and consequently would not assist the authorities in their endeavours to put an end to it by giving their evidence against those who might be detected in carrying it on.

I stated to his Excellency that I was well aware of the difficulty which had always been found in convicting those who were charged with slave-trading under the Penal Law, for want of proofs, as it was impossible to get the inhabitants to give their evidence in such cases; but that that exigency could be provided for by extraordinary powers conferred by Her Catholic Majesty's Government, and that, should his Excellency deem it expedient to apply for more ample authority to be used in such cases, such representation on his part would be earnestly supported by Her Majesty's Minister at the Court of Madrid.

General Concha having expressed a wish to have an extract from your Lordship's despatch, I did not hesitate in giving it him, which I trust will be approved by your Lordship.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 238.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 1.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, August 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 11th June, and its inclosures, with respect to the capture of the schooner "*Cortes*," which sailed from this port, under American colours, on the 14th of April last.

I have carefully read over the depositions of Antonio Flores, Antonio Perez, and Miguel Soler, who have described themselves, in their declarations before the Consul-General of the United States, as having been passengers on board the "*Cortes*."

I have also read the charter-party of the "*Cortes*," which purports to be an agreement for the freight of said vessel, made at this place, between Francisco Garcia, merchant, and James M. Durand, the master, on behalf of the owners, according to which the "*Cortes*" is engaged to proceed to Annabon with a cargo of lawful merchandize, and to return to a port in the Island of Cuba; the charterer having the option to send her to a port in the United States with a cargo of lawful merchandize, instead of Cuba, upon the same terms of remuneration.

The cargo shipped at Havana by Francisco Garcia is stated in the bill of lading, which is copied in these depositions.

I have the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the "*Cortes*" arrived here from New York on the 18th March last, consigned to Messrs. Herrera and Co. She came in charge of a person named Smalley, who, it was known here, had been commissioned to purchase and bring over here a slaver of suitable qualities. Mr. Smalley received 10,000 dollars for the "*Cortes*," which he took to the office of Herrera, giving the necessary directions for its being remitted to the United States; and Mr. Durand, possessing the confidence of the real owners of the slave-trading expedition, was substituted for the proper owner.

The concoction of the fictitious transfer to Durand, the charter-party, the bill of lading, and of all the other simulated papers, was confided to Don Antonio Cabarga, a wealthy ship-chandler, who had for his remuneration the furnishing of the stores put on board the "*Cortes*."

The clearance at the Custom-house agrees with what is stated on the copy of the bill of lading embodied in the depositions taken by the Consul of the United States, with exception of the iron kitchen, which no doubt was such as to have all the requisites and conveniences usual for a cargo of slaves.

I have diligently inquired, but I have been unable to learn anything whatever of Francisco Garcia, the charterer of the "*Cortes*," and the shipper of her cargo. There is no such merchant in the place.

The passengers, Don Juan Alberti, Don Manuel Vidal Perez, Don Miguel Soler, and Don Antonio Flores, and Don Antonio Flores, all obtained their passports by certificates from the Comisario of the fifth district of this city, and are thus described:—

"Don Juan Antonio Alberty, native of Biscay, merchant, residing in the parish of Principe: does not know how to write his name.

"Don Manuel Vidal Perez, native of Corunna, merchant, residing in Pilar; does not write his name.

"Don Miguel Soler, a native of Egea, a cook, residing in Pilar; last from Key West.

"Don Antonio Flores, native of Valencia, a cook; last from Matanzas."

I consequently applied to the said Commissary of Police of the 5th District, requesting him to institute inquiry as to the means and position of said parties, who are stated to have had considerable sums of money with them on board the "*Cortes*;" and the result which he has reported to me is, that none of them possessed any property whatever.

It is remarkable that, both at the Commissary's office, and at the Passport Office, where I also made inquiry, Alberti and Perez, the two passengers described as being merchants, did not know how to write, and who, the Commissary states, were not possessed of any property whilst here, should have so suddenly, on board the "*Cortes*," have had such large sums of money as in their declarations they and Soler state were taken from them when captured by the "*Forward*," amounting to upwards of 20,000 dollars.

Mr. Alberti, however, it would seem, was able to write his name at the American Consulate, although he could not write at the Commissary's or the Passport Office.

I believe that Don Antonio Cabarga, who has been a prominent actor in this and other instances, to cover slave-trading under the American flag, is the holder of a power of attorney from Smalley, with instructions to claim, through parties in the United States, indemnity for the capture of the "*Cortes*."

The "*Cortes*," originally purchased for parties in Cuba to be engaged in the Slave Trade, was paid for, and as I have stated in another part of this despatch, the money, 10,000 dollars, remitted to the United States through Messrs. Herrera and Co.; there was no longer any American interest in that vessel, and she had no right whatever to use the flag—a fact of which Captain Durand was well aware; and if he acted as it is said by the mate he did when fallen in with by the "*Forward*," and made away with the American papers, he only did what was right in fact, whatever may have been his motives.

No. 239.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received September 1.)

(Extract.)

*Havana, August 3, 1858.*

WITH reference to that part of your Lordship's despatch of the 11th of June, and consequent letter to the Admiralty, upon the subject of the representation made by the United States' Consul-General of this place to his Government, that American vessels in the port of Havana are subjected to a system of espionage and annoyance by the boats belonging to British cruisers, I proceed to give that representation the most positive denial.

I beg leave to lay before your Lordship the copy of a despatch and of its inclosures which I addressed to Commodore Kellett, at Jamaica, in answer to the inquiry as to the truth of the Americans' statement. And your Lordship will see by the return of Her Majesty's ships of war at Havana in 1857 and 1858, that none of our cruisers were in port for any period of time to permit the exercise or practice of such system of espionage, if it ever had been intended, or thought of.

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 Inclosure 1 in No. 239.
*Consul-General Crawford to Commodore Kellett, July 28, 1858.*

[See Class A, Inclosure 1 in No. 193.]

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 Inclosure 2 in No. 239.

STATEMENT of British Ships of War at Havana in 1857 and 1858.

[See Class A, Inclosure 2 in No. 193.]

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 No. 240.
*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received September 1.)

(Extract.)

*Havana, August 7, 1858.*

I BEG leave to acquaint your Lordship that two of the vessels reported in my despatch of the 8th ultimo as fitting-out for the Slave Trade, viz., the "*Fannie*" and "*Zephyr*," have gone from hence to the United States; and the "*Castor*," mentioned in my despatch of the 22nd ultimo, has also cleared for New York with a cargo of sugar.

Her Majesty's Consul at Santiago de Cuba, of date the 21st ultimo, informs me that, about ten days before that, a barque called the "*J. W. Reid*," of about 350 tons, under American colours, arrived there from New Orleans with a cargo of provisions, which was landed, and another taken on board, as the Consul had learnt, consisting of 300 casks of water, 100 barrels biscuits, 20 casks rice, 20 barrels pork, and 16,000 feet lumber. The "*J. W. Reid*" having been fitted out by the same parties that dispatched the slaver "*Almeida*" to the coast the end of last year, and other circumstances of a suspicious nature, had induced Mr. Forbes to believe that she is intended to be employed in the Slave Trade; and I hasten to report the fact to your Lordship.

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 No. 241.
*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received September 18.)

My Lord,

*Havana, August 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Lordship that on, or about, the 20th instant, the United States' brig-sloop "*Dolphin*" fell in with, off Sagua la Grande, and after a short chase came up with and captured, a slaver having 328 Bozals on board.

The "*Dolphin*," I understand, hoisted British colours, which she carried until the slaver, which showed the American flag, had been closed, so as to preclude all chance of

CLASS B.

escape, and then she hauled down the British and ran up the colours of the United States.

The prize proved to be the brig "*Echo*," alias "*Putnam*," of New Orleans, and had mixed crew of Spaniards and Americans. The commander of the "*Dolphin*" has sent her to Charleston.

This, no doubt, is the same brig "*Putnam*" which cleared from this port the 8th February last for New Orleans, and which had previously landed a cargo of slaves on this island.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 242.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, September 21, 1858.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 28th of July, reporting a conversation which, in obedience to the instructions contained in my despatch of the 11th of June, you had held with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting the equipment of vessels for the Slave Trade in the ports of Cuba, and the landing of slaves on the coasts of that island; and I have to acquaint you that I approve the language held by you on that occasion.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 243.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 2.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, September 1, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging your Lordship's despatch dated the 21st July, transmitting, for my information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, stating that he had been informed by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs that that Government intended to increase their squadron in the Cuban waters.

His Excellency the Captain-General, in a conversation I had with him a few days ago, adverted to the inefficiency of frigates, brigs, and the larger classes of steamers for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and observed that he was very desirous of having a number of gun-boats propelled by steam to be used on that service, but that, he believed, there were few or none of a suitable description in the Spanish navy.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 244.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 2.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, September 3, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st July, inclosing, for my information, copies and extracts of correspondence which had passed between Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid and your Lordship on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

The prompt measures adopted here by Commander Vesey and myself respecting the affair of *Sagua la Grande*, and the disapproval by Her Majesty's Government of the acts of the officer in command of the "*Buzzard's*" boat at that place, could not but be sufficiently satisfactory to the Spanish Government.

I notice, however, in the extract from Mr. Buchanan's despatch dated Madrid 7th July, that M. Isturiz, when Mr. Buchanan gave him some extracts from my reports to your Lordship of the increase of the Slave Trade, had recourse to the old excuse of the complaints of Her Majesty's Government being founded on hearsay, my excessive credulity and the impossibility of preventing the introduction of slaves, &c.

The same causes operate here to frustrate the execution of the laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as in Spain the revenue laws are violated by valuable inducements proposed to, and accepted by, the preventive officers, and Mr. Buchanan was quite right in defending me by the proofs he had in hand, of my reports being generally acknowledged by the Captain-General as correct; and in refusing to admit the analogy between slaves and contraband goods.

I have often adverted to the insufficient authority of the Captain-General, and the effect of the penal law, as compelling him to leave the charges against infractors of that law and of the Treaty for suppression of Slave Trade, to be dealt with by the Royal Audiencia, before which tribunal—such is the constitution of this people—it is found to be impossible to convict offenders, because the necessary legal evidence can never be obtained.

In proof of this I may assert that, at this moment, there are prosecutions against certain very wealthy persons preferred by General Concha, which his Excellency believes would lead to their conviction and punishment, provided sufficient evidence can be adduced upon the trial; but the parties are hidden, or have absconded, and thus time will be given to buy off the witnesses, and get them out of the way when they are wanted.

But what has been effected by the Brazilian Government and authorities can easily be accomplished by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, and if this principle, which has been proposed by your Lordship, is insisted upon, and the Government of this island is made responsible for its being carried into effect, full powers being granted to the Captain-General for that purpose, there would be but little difficulty in the matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 245.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received November 1.)

My Lord,

*Havana, September 24, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a correspondence which I have just had with the Captain-General of Cuba respecting a very extensive landing of slaves which has been effected lately between Cardenas and Sagua la Grande.

I have ascertained that the vessel was the American ship "*Haidee*," Whitney, master; that she fitted out and sailed from New York to a port in Spain, then to Gibraltar, and thence the master says (as he understood) on a voyage to St. Michael's, but that he found a Portuguese captain on board, whose name was Tomas, and a supercargo called Riera, who had the authority to alter the destination. Notwithstanding the American master's remonstrances the "*Haidee*" proceeded to the Coast of Africa, and at Quilongo, or, as the Americans of the crew call it, Chilango, they took in 1,145 Bozals, of whom 242 died on the voyage, thence to this island, and 903 were safely landed.

Your Lordship will observe, by the Captain-General's answer to my denouncement of this most glaring infraction of the law and of the Treaty, that he has sent an officer of the Court of Royal Audiencia to investigate the matter. Our experience of the results of such Commissions, on almost innumerable previous occasions, may warrant the conclusion that nothing whatever will be effected by the Oidor, and yet the Portuguese captain, the Spanish supercargo, and the American crew, all came on to Havana; the latter made their declarations before the Acting Consul-General of the United States, and the others are even now, I believe, very comfortably lodged at the house of a notorious slave-trader in this city: facts which prove either the absolute uselessness of the system of passports, which is so annoying to honest travellers and fair traders, or the facility with which the suspension of regulations, in other cases so rigidly enforced, is obtainable here by those who are engaged in slave-trading, for whose convenience and safety from arrest, the vigilance of the police, it would appear, can be relaxed at all times, and the transit of such a body as 903 Bozal negroes, from the place of their landing to the plantations, where, by a provision of the penal law, they are safe from capture, can be effected unseen by the local authorities, and this, too, my Lord, the infractors coming to the capital, and the slaves being landed and passed through a thickly-settled district of the island! a most perfect combination, how arranged it is not very difficult to imagine.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 245.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**September 17, 1858.*

I HAVE received information, upon which I think I can rely, that a cargo of Bozal negroes (consisting of about 900), was landed about a week ago near Cardenas.

The vessel came to Cayo Blanco, and after landing her cargo of slaves went away, to fit out for another voyage. I understand that she was an American ship or barque, 450 to 500 tons measurement, which sailed from New York to a port in Spain, from whence she proceeded to the Coast of Africa, and there took in between 1,100 and 1,200 negroes, and that 240 of them died on the middle passage, as they were short of provisions and water.

The slaves landed were, as I heard, in very poor condition, and were hurried off at once to the plantations in the neighbourhood.

I shall be thankful to your Excellency for any intelligence which may have been obtained respecting this affair, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

God preserve, &amp;c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 245.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Translation.)

*Havana, September 19, 1858.*

I HAVE received the communication which your Honour addressed to me on the 17th of this month, acquainting me of the information which you had of a disembarkation of Bozals, recently effected in the jurisdiction of Cardenas.

For some days I have been cognizant of the occurrence stated by your Honour, and I have taken, and will continue to take, all the measures that may be necessary for inquiring into and punishment of same: and to that end have appointed an Oidor of this Real Audiencia to proceed to Cardenas, in order that he may take charge of the proceedings already commenced in the Jurisdictions of Cardenas, Colon, and Sagua, and from the result of his investigations I hope for a full exposure of this occurrence.

God preserve, &amp;c.

(Signed)

JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 246.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 1.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, September 25, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st August, transmitting, for my information, a copy of a despatch which your Lordship addressed to Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, upon the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade.

It would indeed be most desirable that Her Catholic Majesty's Government should confer extraordinary discretionary power upon the Captain-General, to deal with those under his orders whose derelictions cannot be reached by the tribunal that is appointed to take cognizance thereof under the penal law.

No. 247.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 1.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, September 27, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 31st ultimo, in relation to that part of my despatch of the 3rd of February which had allusions to facilities which, it was stated, had been afforded at the Caymans to the Cuban slave-traders.

The inhabitants of the Caymans, as well as those of the Bahama Islands, it is well known, earn a great part of their livelihood in "wrecking;" and although the nature of that precarious industry may have given rise to the general estimate of their character as

lawless and unscrupulous, if there is any truth in that idea, it is, I believe, applicable to them only in the exercise of their dangerous and peculiar calling, as, from all I have heard, they hold slavery and the Slave Trade in the most utter abhorrence.

Still, as it had come from the Consul of the United States, who stated that it had been alleged in his office by Americans who came from the Caymans, and the Spanish Admiral, in a conversation which I had with him about the same time, threw out similar insinuations with regard to the little vessels of the Caymans, I deemed it my duty to notice the circumstance to your Lordship; and I have no doubt, as a result of this investigation, that, if ever the slave-traders again seek supplies or assistance at those islands such as was afforded to the "*N. Hand*," the American Vice-Consul, as a magistrate, will be careful more fully to investigate the matter than he seems to have done upon that occasion.

In obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I have endeavoured to ascertain whether it was the case of that vessel which gave rise to the rumours of Mr. Eden's proceedings, and those of the people of the Caymans, or whether there were other cases which may have led to the reports in question.

And I have the honour of reporting, that the Acting Consul-General of the United States, to whom I applied, informs me, that there is no record of any deposition at that Consulate having been taken, but that the master of an American vessel that was wrecked at the Caymans (whose name was Lealar) stated at that office what was reported to me by Mr. Consul-General Blythe, but that they do not know whether Captain Lealar had reference to the case of the "*N. Hand*," or to any others.

No. 248.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 1.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, September 27, 1858.*

ON the 9th instant a large ship was towed into this port by one of Her Catholic Majesty's war-steamers, said to have been found abandoned at Cayo Sal on the Colorados, and having, by the state of her fittings, and whole appearance on board, the most sure evidence of her being a slaver, and of having recently landed her cargo of human beings from the Coast of Africa or the Mozambique.

Nothing whatever has as yet transpired, or has been published, with regard to this vessel by the Government here; but I am assured, by persons who ought to know, that said slaver is the Spanish ship "*Iberia*," 460 tons, which was built and fitted out by the notorious slaver Captain Don Eugenio Viñas.

There is no doubt that the cargo of slaves landed at Cardenas, and reported to your Lordship in my despatch dated the 2nd July, was from the "*Iberia*," and that they were taken away to various plantations from thence quite publicly.

No. 249.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 1, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,\* reporting that the American brig "*Charlotte*" had effected a clearance from the River Congo, with a cargo of slaves, and stating that the brig "*Putnam*" and ship "*Trovatore*" had also shipped cargoes of slaves from the neighbourhood of Kilongo during the month of July last.

You will communicate the substance of Mr. Gabriel's report to the Captain-General of Cuba.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.



No. 250.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 30, 1858*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, and for any observations which you may have to offer thereupon, copies of two despatches from Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid,\* reporting what passed at conversations which he has had with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon the question of furnishing the Captain-General of Cuba, with additional powers for the suppression of the Slave Trade in that island.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 251.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 17, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a Report from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro to the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the Brazilian Station,† containing information respecting the Brazilian ship "*Santo*," which is reported to have been fitted out for the Slave Trade.

You will communicate to the Captain-General of Cuba the suspicions entertained with regard to the destination of this vessel.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 252.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 27, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid,‡ reporting what passed at a conversation which he had with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 253.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 3, 1859.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, November 30, 1858.*

THE American barque "*Ardennes*," 234 tons, loaded at this port and cleared out at this Custom-house for the Coast of Africa, was refused her papers by the Acting Consul-General of the United States, because he had reason to believe that said vessel had been sold here to certain parties who intended her to be employed in Slave Trade. The "*Ardennes*" suffered several weeks' detention; but on the arrival here of Mr. Helm, the new Consul-General of the United States, he accepted bonds, for a considerable amount, that this vessel would proceed to an American port, and she sailed on the 15th instant.

I have, however, heard that the American master did not proceed in the vessel, but that she went to sea under the command of a person called Peletier, well known as a slave-trader, and it is therefore probable that the "*Ardennes*" may not call at an American port, but proceed upon her originally intended voyage to the Coast of Africa. She is painted black, with a large spread eagle on her stern painted white, has white lower masts and black mast-heads, not at all clipper or rakish-looking.

The American schooner "*Enterprise*," 109 tons, was detained under similar circumstances, but also was allowed her papers by the Consul, Mr. Helm, under bonds, and has sailed from this port, no doubt to be employed in the Slave Trade. The American brig

\* Nos. 194 and 196.

† Class A, Inclosure in No. 200.

‡ No. 203.

"*Mianus*," 169 tons, has cleared out hence for Portland, United States, with so unusual a cargo, and chiefly consisting of rum, that I have strong suspicions of her also being intended for the Coast of Africa, to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 254.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received January 3, 1859.)

My Lord,

*Havana, November 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of a copy of a despatch addressed to your Lordship by Mr. Gabriel, dated at Loanda the 25th of August last, showing the audacious manner in which the slave-traders at the River Congo still carry on their operations under the protection of the American flag.

The tricks detailed in that despatch as having been played by the American brig "*Charlotte*" do not at all surprise me. There is no deception to which those who engage in slave-trading will not have recourse; and the masters are instructed by their Spanish and Portuguese employers how they are to act upon such emergencies as they reckon may occur.

The "*Charlotte*" must have run her cargo safely, as I have not heard anything of her arrival on the coast of this island, nor have I heard anything of the "*Ellen*" or "*E. A. Chase*;" but the "*Venus*" and the "*Putnam*" are both accounted for in my previous despatches dated 31st ultimo and 28th August last.\*

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 255.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received January 3, 1859.)

My Lord,

*Havana, December 1, 1858.*

I HAVE to report to your Lordship that the port of Zarza, in the district of Sancto Spiritus, to the eastward of Trinidad, on the south side of this island, which some years ago was closed in consequence of the great amount of Slave Trade which was carried on there, is again declared open to foreign commerce from and after the 1st proximo; so that we may expect a repetition of such scandalous operations as we had to complain of formerly as having been practised by the rich and influential proprietors at that place, in carrying on the Slave Trade upon an extensive scale.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 256.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received February 2, 1859.)

My Lord,

*Havana, December 25, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 1st November, transmitting, for my information, a copy of a despatch which your Lordship had received from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda, reporting the clearance from the River Congo of the American brig "*Charlotte*" with a cargo of slaves, and stating that the brig "*Putnam*" and ship "*Trovatore*" had also shipped cargoes of slaves from Kilongo during the month of July last.

In obedience to your Lordship's instruction, I shall communicate the substance of Mr. Gabriel's report to the Captain-General.

I beg leave respectfully to refer your Lordship to my despatch of the 30th ultimo, noticing Mr. Gabriel's report, and I have now to acquaint your Lordship that the "*Ellen*" has successfully landed her cargo in the district of Cardenas, and has been found aground

\* No. 241; and Class A, No. 36.

in the Canal de los Barcos, with evident traces of having just got rid of her load of human suffering; some dead bodies of Bozals were found on board, and 50 odd were captured by the Captain of the Port of Cardenas on board a fishing-smack belonging to Don Francisco Torrens y Marti of this place, to which they had been transferred from the brig, either sold to Marti, or for the purpose of being landed.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

## No. 257.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 2, 1859.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, December 27, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 30th ultimo, inclosing, for my information, extracts of despatches from Her Majesty's Consul at Mozambique, and from Captain Rigby, Political Agent at Zanzibar, relating to the shipment of slaves from the East Coast of Africa, destined for Cuba.

The "*Venus*" alluded to in Mr. McLeod's despatch, is doubtless the same vessel of that name which was captured and brought into this port, with part of her cargo of slaves on board; and as it appears that she had, previous to the 12th February, sailed from Lamoo with 800 Bozals on board, it is to be inferred that that cargo had been successfully landed somewhere here in Cuba, and the vessel had made another voyage to Africa, from whence she was returning when she was captured by the Spanish war-steamer, after her ineffectual attempt to land what must have been her second expedition.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

## No. 258.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 2, 1859.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, December 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, transmitting, for my information, and for any observations which I may have to offer thereupon, copies of two despatches from Mr. Buchanan, Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid, reporting what passed at conversations with the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon the question of furnishing the Captain-General of Cuba with additional powers for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

The Penal Law, which was so reluctantly enacted, appears to have been framed expressly to operate as a protection to the planters, as it forbids the search of their estates, so that they are secure whenever the newly-imported African is incorporated with their working gangs.

The system of cédulas, invented by General Concha, if honestly carried out, would operate as a check, that is, if corruption was not so completely organized everywhere, and in everything, as to render useless those wise and beneficent laws which, if well administered, would conduce to the security and happiness of the inhabitants.

The power in such cases, by the Penal Law, is in the Royal Audiencia Pretorial, and it has been proved, times without number, that proofs to convict parties who are accused under the Penal Law in that tribunal, cannot be obtained.

Commission after Commission has been sent forth to investigate cases of slave-trading—cases so notorious that every man, woman, and child at the place knew every circumstance, and yet the Commissioner has been unable to obtain any judicial evidence whatever as to what has occurred.

A Captain-General, invested with powers to remove, disgrace, and punish the Lieutenant-Governors and the subaltern officers of districts where it was ascertained that slaves had been landed, who would act promptly upon those powers, without distinction or favour, would soon put an end to the present system of wholesale corruption.

No. 259.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 2, 1859.)*

(Extract.)

*Havana, December 29, 1858.*

I BEG leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of this island upon the subject of the most flagrant violations of the Law and of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade which have lately, and for some time past, been committed in the district of Cardenas, almost publicly, and so conducted upon a scale that leaves little doubt, and warrants the conclusion, of the most scandalous connivance of the local authorities.

General Concha had recourse to the sending of a Commission to investigate them, and the estate of Zulueta was searched ineffectually. But what other result was to be expected. M. Zulueta, who was at his estate, was first ordered to present himself to the Lieutenant-Governor at Cardenas; this, of course, prepared him for the search and investigation. Thus the Magistrate found nothing, and could obtain no proofs whatever. And so I have been verbally informed by his Excellency the Captain-General; who added that his authority could go no further, and, indeed, did not warrant the steps he had taken in going upon the estate.

I have, however, good information of all that took place; and it is hardly possible to conceive the degree of demoralization and bribery, which is estimated for one cargo of some 900 slaves to have amounted to 200,000 dollars. The escort from the place of landing, through the country to the estate, it is reported to me, consisted of some 200 armed men, nearly all of them mounted. The slaves were furnished at once, on their being landed, with their certificates of baptism and their cedula.

It was not, therefore, without reason, that I wrote to the Captain-General in the marked terms I did upon this occasion.

But your Lordship will observe that his Excellency has taken no notice of my charge of connivance of the local authorities; he rather appears to endeavour to make a merit of the capture of a few Bozals, to laud the zeal of his officer, when, in fact, I believe the captures he alludes to were slaves of yet another expedition,\* the rest of which went away, he supposes, or has been so informed, but which, like the previous ones, were all safely landed, as I happen to know.

Those slaves, so furnished with baptismal certificates and cedula, have been sold at from 755 dollars to 850 dollars each, and some few brought 55 ounces of gold, or upwards of 900 dollars each; thus leaving a large profit, notwithstanding the enormous sums expended in bribes and expenses incident to their being landed and rendered safe.

Inclosure 1 in No. 259.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, December 14, 1858.*

I HAVE received intelligence, upon which I can rely, that another landing of about 700 Bozal negroes has taken place in the district of Cardenas.

The repeated disembarkation of slaves recently in that district, which it has been my disagreeable duty to report, is matter of serious complaint, upon which, in obedience to the instructions which I have from my Government, I am to remonstrate with your Excellency.

These scandalous infractions of the laws, both in regard to the landing of the slaves and their safe transit to the interior of the island, have been such as could hardly have taken place without the criminal connivance of the local authorities.

Fully informed as to the energetic steps which were immediately taken by your Excellency for the capture of those expeditions and detection of those concerned, I shall not fail, in giving an account to Her Majesty's Government of those affairs, to attribute the unfavourable results of these measures of your Excellency to the peculiar circumstances of this island, which require a more absolute power to be conferred upon your Excellency to act in such cases according to circumstances; viz., without being restricted by the

\* Namely, brig "*Ellen*," which was found aground at Cayo Cinco Legoas, empty, but with traces of having but just landed her cargo of slaves, but this his Excellency does not tell me; she had 900 in all. See my despatch of the 25th instant.

enactments of the Penal Law, which, instead of giving fuller effect to the Treaty of 1835 for the suppression of the Slave Trade, is found to operate as a complete protection to the slave-traders and their accomplices.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 259.

*The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.*

(Translation.)

*Havana, December 28, 1858.*

LONG previous to the receipt of your Honour's communication of the 14th instant, I had information, through the local authorities of Cardenas and Sagua, of having been noticed in those waters a vessel which according to all appearances had negroes on board, and which was trying to disembark at different places on the coast; to impede which all the authorities were immediately active, and, on my part, I immediately gave orders for the sailing of the "Venadito" from this port in pursuit of the reported vessel, which was carried into effect the same night on which I received the first advice; and it unfortunately happening that this steamer having gone ashore, prevented her from continuing the service to which she was destined, the schooner "Cristina" was alone available, which had the good fortune to seize a launch with 61 Bozal negroes.

The Comandante de Marina of the port of Cardenas, on his part, left on the first intimation, in a boat, to reconnoitre the cays on which it might be suspected that such a landing might have taken place; and on one of them he perceived positive signs of it, which were presently confirmed by the finding three dead bodies of negroes who had recently died: so that there appears to be no doubt that if the expedition was disembarked there, it was likewise immediately re-embarked, either on account of its not being able to subsist, or from fear of the active pursuit manifested by the authorities; and all induces the belief that it may have been lost at sea or on the coast, taking for granted that its disembarkation could not be effected at any place, notwithstanding that the confidential particulars to which your Honour refers in your communication already cited may state to the contrary.

Subsequently, I have been informed that a remainder of that expedition, apparently lost, was disembarked on the shores of the Musulman; but instantly the Lieutenant-Governor and Alcalde Mayor, who were on an adjoining estate, occupied in watching and following up the same expedition, presented themselves, and the result was the re-embarkation of this remainder at the approach of the authorities, leaving in evidence of it, on retreat, five negroes in a very bad state of health.

I say this in answer to your Honour's communication of the 14th instant, referred to, being obliged to add, on my part, that if the result of the dispositions taken on this occasion has not been completely satisfactory, it is not certainly attributable to the local authorities, for they, as well as all the other public functionaries, have shown all the zeal, activity, and energy which the compliance with their respective duties demands of and imposes on them.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOSE DE LA CONCHA.

No. 260.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 2, 1859.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, December 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which on the 18th instant I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, requesting information as to the disembarkation of 1,000 Bozal negroes which I had been informed were then recently landed in the jurisdiction of San Juan de los Remedios, and also as to another which took place in the district of Cardenas on the 12th to 14th instant.

I have to report to your Lordship that without any reason to doubt the correctness of the information upon which I founded that application, I have not yet been favoured with any answer from his Excellency in reply thereto.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 260.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, December 18, 1858.*

I HAVE received information that a cargo of upwards of 1,000 Bozal negroes have lately been landed in the jurisdiction of Remedios, on the estate Jucaro, belonging to Don Manuel Abreu, in Yaguajai, and that this disembarkation was effected with the knowledge of the local authorities.

I have also heard that another landing of Bozals has taken place in the district of Cardenas about the 12th to the 14th instant.

I have, therefore, to request that your Excellency will be pleased to acquaint me, for the information of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, with such of the particulars of these cases as may have reached this Government.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 261.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 4.)*

My Lord,

*Havana, January 24, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 17th December last, transmitting, for my information, a report from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro to the Admiral commanding Her Majesty's naval forces on the Brazilian Station, containing information respecting the Brazilian ship "Santo," which is reported to have been fitted out for the Slave Trade.

I shall, in obedience to your Lordship's instruction, communicate to the Captain-General here, the suspicions entertained with regard to the destination of that vessel.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 262.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Crawford.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, March 19, 1859.*

I INCLOSE, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos,\* reporting the capture of the slave-vessels "Juliet" and "Dorado," by Her Majesty's ships "Archer" and "Sharpshooter," and containing information respecting the Slave Trade in the Bights of Benin and Biafra.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

SPAIN. (Consular)—Porto Rico.

No. 263.

Consul Hunt to the Earl of Malmesbury,—(Received October 15.)

(Extract.)

Porto Rico, September 25, 1858.

IN my despatch of the 7th January last,\* I had the honour to inform your Lordship that the Spanish schooner "Paquete" had been seized in this harbour on the ground that she was fitted out with the necessary appliances for a voyage to the coast of Africa in search of a cargo of slaves, and that the master and crew had been imprisoned pending the proceedings instituted against them.

I now inclose to your Lordship a translation of the sentence recorded in the Supreme Court in this matter.

The delays of the Spanish forms of procedure have, in this instance, been instrumental in dealing out a certain measure of justice. All the individuals named in the sentence have suffered a considerable term of imprisonment, and the vessel, although now restored to the owners, has been hauled up alongside of the Arsenal for the last eight months.

I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship that the seizure of the "Paquete," and the imprisonment of the master and crew, have had the effect of arresting the designs to renew the Slave Trade, which appeared to be suddenly entertained here some months since; and not only has no African from the coast been landed for some time past, but I do not anticipate that any further attempts to introduce slaves will be made under the existing state of things in Porto Rico.

Inclosure in No. 263.

Sentence.

(Translation.)

IN the criminal case instituted upon the suspicion that the schooner "Paquete," of Porto Rico, was fitting out at this port with the object of introducing in this island slave negroes from the Coast of Africa. It appears that, having examined the said vessel in consequence of the confidential communications which the Government of this island had, the result of this proceeding from the strong suspicions which were entertained of the criminal object with which the said vessel was fitting out, was a sufficient motive in itself for the present investigation. The result is, that the search having been made, and the most rigid investigations which were deemed advisable throughout the whole case having been made, the before-mentioned suspicions have not been confirmed, but neither is the innocence of the accused fairly proved. In conformity, therefore, with the proposal of the Ministerio Fiscal, M. Sandoral, being the Principal Judge, the accused José Carreras Juan Alcina, Rafael Robune, Juan Antonio de la Cruz, Antonio Bis, José Reinaldo, José Miguel Toribio, Bernardo Martinez, Juan Cabanillas and Juan Encarnacion de la Torre, are discharged, the expenses of the case for the present being declared official.

Return to Don José Carreras the sums deposited in the Treasury, as well as the vessel, and all other effects, for which the necessary communications shall be given. Make this resolution known to the President, and carry it into execution.

Porto Rico, August 9, 1858.

(Signed)

REGENTE.

MEDINA

SANDORAL

LINARES

} Oidores.

(Authorized by the Notary of the Chamber.)

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 485.

No. 264.

*Consul Hunt to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 4.)*

(Extract.)

*Porto Rico, February 12, 1859.*

ON the morning of the 6th instant, I received a communication, stating that on the previous night a large barque with about 800 negroes from the Coast of Africa on board, had been run upon a point known as Candelaro, off the port of Humacao, at the east end of this island.

I immediately addressed a note to General Cotoner, conveying to him this intelligence, and I sought an interview as soon as he was visible. He informed me that the Spanish vessel of war "Hernan Cortez" had been despatched to Humacao, and that the vessel, crew, and cargo, would shortly be in his power.

From 800 to 850 Africans were landed, it is said, from this vessel, under all the distressing circumstances usual upon such occasions.

The crew, twenty-seven in number, have been taken into custody; but it is to be regretted that the master and two chief officers have not, hitherto, been captured. All the crew are in an emaciated condition, the provisions, it is stated, having been exhausted. Three of the number died on board.

The vessel is a large barque, with the name "*Majesté*" on the stern, and with the letter "T" painted in a conspicuous position on the bows. It is affirmed that she was fitted out at Cadiz. The majority of the crew are Spaniards.

She left the River Congo with 1,050 captives, and arrived at Porto Rico, after a voyage of thirty-four days. The mortality has been considerable, over 20 per cent. of the number shipped.

The point where the vessel was run aground is in the track of vessels sailing from Africa to Cuba, and as there was a scarcity of provisions on board, it was probably found to be impracticable to reach the intended destination. It could never have been seriously believed to be practicable to land such a large number of Africans in a place so thickly peopled as Porto Rico, without the knowledge of the authorities and of British Agents. That no provision was made, moreover, at Humacao, for the reception of the cargo, would appear to confirm this view.

The Government has issued a notice to all the landowners of the island indiscriminately, requiring them to send in returns of the extent of the lands held by them, the actual number of slaves in their possession, together with the number lost during the ravages of cholera in 1856, with a view to the distribution of the negroes among those planters most in need of hands.

In the apprenticeship of these negroes the precedents established in the Havana will, I am assured, be strictly followed.

No. 265.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Hunt.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, March 16, 1859.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 12th ultimo, reporting that a barque with upwards of 800 slaves on board, had been stranded off the port of Humacao, at the east end of the Island of Porto Rico, and that the slaves and crew had been seized by the Spanish authorities.

I have to desire that you will furnish me with all the information which you may be able to procure respecting the parties who may have been engaged in this transaction, and the steps that may be taken by the Spanish authorities for their punishment.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.



SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Teneriffe*.

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No. 266.

*Consul Murray to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received June 14.)

My Lord,

*Teneriffe, April 27, 1858.*

WITH reference to Mr. Acting Consul Parkinson's despatch of the 1st December, 1857,\* reporting the arrival here and delivery over to these local authorities of the master and three men belonging to the Spanish barque "*Conchita*," transmitted by the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone, for implication in the Slave Trade, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that these men have been acquitted and released by the Regent of the Court of Justice of the Canary Islands, and have proceeded to Spain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY JOHN MURRAY.

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\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 492.

## TRIPOLI.

No. 267.

*Consul-General Herman to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, April 5, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Earl of Clarendon's despatch of the 13th November last,\* which, having been forwarded by mistake to Tripoli in Syria, only reached me three days ago, and transmitting copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General at Algiers, commenting on a report made to me by Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Mourzuk, on the subject of the commercial relations at present in active operation between Ghat, Tuat, and the French settlements on the northern edge of the Sahara.

In reply I have the honour to state, that notwithstanding Her Majesty's Consul-General's explanation contraverts to a certain degree the correctness of Mr. Fremeaux's statement, I nevertheless continue to receive, not only from Mourzuk but from other parts of the interior, reports corroboratory of the facts therein stated; in fact, it was from the unvarying complexion of the reports in question, minutely circumstantial in detail, and bearing alike the impression, if not of positive truth, at least of extreme probability, coupled with the urgent representations of the Governor-General on the same subject, that at his request, under date of the 10th ultimo, I transmitted to the Earl of Clarendon a Memorandum on the new direction which the caravan trade of the interior has assumed.

I have, however, taken measures to determine more positively the facts of the case, the result of which, ere long, I hope to be able to report to your Lordship. In the meantime I will only take the liberty of observing, that the statement in Mr. Bell's despatch, that between Tuat and the Algerine tribes no commercial relations exist, is at variance with the works of several high French authorities, particularly with that of General Daumas, 'Sur le Grand Désert.'

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

No. 268.

*Consul-General Herman to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, April 9, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of two despatches I have received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi, reporting the most flagrant infraction of the Firman prohibiting the exportation of slaves from this Regency, on the part of Zacky Pasha, late Governor of Bengazi, whose extraordinary conduct I had the honour to bring under the notice of the Earl of Clarendon in a despatch of the 23rd February last.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 268.

*Vice-Consul Crowe to Consul-General Herman.*

Sir,

*Bengazi, March 22, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report that three months ago a Turkish vessel, commanded by Captain Osman Bezsiada, left this port for Adalia, on board of which Mr. Acting Vice-

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 498.

Consul Xerri had strong suspicions that slaves had been embarked ; whereupon he immediately went to the Captain of the Port to ascertain whether his suspicions were well founded, to which the latter declared most solemnly that no slaves had been embarked ; and Mr. Xerri, moreover, desired the Custom-house officer to keep a strict look-out on the said vessel, and report to him anything which might lead him to suspect that slaves were on board or likely to be embarked.

The vessel, however, left this port without any report on the subject from that agent.

Last evening a Turkish vessel reached this from Canea, and authentic information has been received that Captain Bezsiada, owing to stress of weather, had been obliged to take refuge in the port of Luda, and that while at anchor the Pasha of Canea, who happened to be passing in his steamer at the time, was attracted by the cries of several slaves, who ran to the side of the vessel, and entreated his assistance. Whereupon the Pasha immediately boarded the said vessel, and liberated these unfortunate creatures, amounting to from 14 to 19 slaves (men and women). and who stated, upon being interrogated, that they had been embarked at Bengazi, by order of Zacky Pasha.

This is all the information I can obtain on the subject for the present, but I hope to be enabled to furnish you with further particulars in my next.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. H. CROWE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 268.

*Vice-Consul Crowe to Consul-General Herman.*

Sir,

*Bengazi, March 27, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report that a vessel named the "Massema," of which Captain Ali ben Argib is master, and the property of Zacky Pasha, leaves this port to-morrow morning for Constantinople, with the late Kaimakam on board.

As I had every reason to suspect, in consequence of information which I had received, that Zacky Pasha intended taking with him a number of negroes of both sexes, I immediately took the necessary steps to ascertain the correctness of the statement, and I lost no time in acquainting Mahmoud Bey of my suspicions.

Early this morning I was informed by a person whom I had requested to watch the proceedings of Zacky Pasha, that during the night three negroes had been embarked, and that at dawn of day another boat was seen to quit the shore with fifteen more. In consequence of which I called on Mahmoud Bey at 8 A.M., and requested him to give an order for the immediate disembarkation of all the negroes on board the "Massema;" but he replied that he could not comply with my request, as all the negroes on board were free, and that all, without one exception, had expressed their willingness to accompany Zacky Pasha to Constantinople. As this story, however, appeared to me very improbable, I requested his Excellency to allow me at least to go on board, accompanied by one of his officers, for the purpose of interrogating the negroes, and of satisfying myself whether what he had just told me was correct; but here again I met with another refusal on his part, alleging as an excuse that Zacky Pasha's harem was on board; and, finally, finding that all my endeavours to persuade the Bey to liberate the negroes were useless, I quitted the Castle, informing his Excellency that I should immediately report his extraordinary conduct to Tripoli, by a vessel which was on the point of starting for that port.

I have, moreover, another complaint to make against the Kaimakam, which is that of permitting, last evening, one of Zacky Pasha's cavasses to go to Dr. Nani's house, where a young liberated slave is in service, and of attempting, by means of threats, to induce her to join her brother, one of Zacky Pasha's slaves, whereupon I immediately sent for Dr. Nani, and ordered him not to give her up. I was not, however, so fortunate in saving her little brother (also liberated), and who was placed by this Vice-Consulate under the guardianship of an old woman, who was very fond of him, and always treated the poor little fellow like one of her own children; for before I had time to protect him from the cruel clutches of these abominable slave-dealers he was seized and sent on board.

I insisted, when at the Castle this morning, that the little fellow should be given up to me; but although Mahmoud Bey promised me that he should be sent to the Vice-Consulate, I have every reason to believe that his promises on this occasion will prove as valueless as his former ones.

I cannot help repeating that Mahmoud Bey's conduct on this occasion appears to me extraordinary and most inhuman: unfortunately I have not the power of preventing it as I would wish; but I feel confident that, before many weeks have elapsed, justice and humanity will meet out to him the punishment he so richly deserves.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. H. CROWE.

P.S.—I have just been informed that the little negro has been restored to the old woman.

F. H. C.

No. 270.

*Consul-General Herman to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 20.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, May 5, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a despatch of the 5th ultimo, from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi, reporting further infractions at that place, through the culpable connivance of the local authorities, of the Imperial Firman prohibiting the exportation of slaves; and I regret to have to observe to your Lordship, from the causes exposed in the Memorandum on the subject which I had the honour in March last to address to the Earl of Clarendon, that unless more stringent measures are adopted by the Porte, every effort to repress further infractions, such as Mr. Crowe's despatch, reports will prove utterly abortive.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) G. F. HERMAN.

Inclosure in No. 270.

*Vice-Consul Crowe to Consul-General Herman.*

(Extract.)

*Bengazi, April 5, 1858.*

WITH reference to my letter of the 22nd March last, acquainting you of the seizure by the Pasha of Candia of a number of slaves belonging to Zacky Pasha, of Bengazi, I have now the honour to inform you that, by a vessel recently arrived here from that port, intelligence has been received that the Pasha of Candia has had instructions from the Porte to dispatch, without loss of time, to Constantinople, the captain, vessel, and slaves, together with letters found on board addressed by Zacky Pasha to a friend of his at Constantinople, and which letters, it is said, will deeply compromise both Zacky Pasha and his friend.

I very much regret to have report to you, not only the connivance at, but the absolute Traffic in Slaves by the late Governor of Bengazi, Zacky Pasha, and that this horrible Trade has much increased of late. I have not failed to acquaint Mahmoud Bey of this, and have requested his assistance and co-operation in aiding me to suppress a Traffic so obnoxious to civilized nations, and so contrary to the feelings of humanity evinced by the Sultan himself with regard to it; but I much fear that unless strict and positive orders are sent from the fountain-head, that my poor endeavours for the suppression of Slave Trade in this district will prove but a fruitless task.

It is reported that from Ogela alone, a number of slaves, exceeding 100, have been sent overland to Alexandria, others leave this town in small numbers during the night, and are then collected at a point at some days' distance from this, and from their rendezvous they are then driven, like herds of cattle, to be sold in the towns of the Levant. All these transactions, however, are carried on with such caution and secrecy that nothing but the strictest surveillance of the police can detect them in time to avoid the evil.

Since my arrival at Bengazi, in two cases only, and that by mere chance, have I been able to prevent the exportation of 2 unfortunate slaves who, like the rest, were destined for the Levant; but these opportunities are of rare occurrence, and I opine that if the Porte earnestly wishes the abolition of Slave Trade she should, on the appointment of every new Governor, strictly inform him to carry those wishes into effect.

*Consul-General Herman to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 10.)*

(Extract.)

*Tripoli, May 22, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th April last, in which I had the honour to report to your Lordship that I had taken measures to determine the precise nature of the commercial relations between Ghat and Algeria, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, 1st, the copy of a petition addressed to the Governor-General by some of the principal merchants of Ghadames and the Fezzan; 2ndly, copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Bengazi. Both documents fully corroborate the truth of the report made to me some time ago by M. de Fremaux, at Mourzuk, on the commercial relations between Ghat, Tuat, and the French settlements on the northern edge of the Great Sahara.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 272.

*Petition.*

(Translation.)

To the Pasha of Tripoli, &c.

(After Compliments.)

WE have hitherto traded under the protection of the Sublime Government with every advantage possible. This trade has been chiefly with Nigritia, and our principal trade has been in slaves. An Imperial order has been sent to this country to put an end to it, which order has been put into execution, and, from the moment it reached us, not one of us has continued the Trade, which has stopped our bread, and we have been obliged to trade in other articles to gain our livelihood. We have obeyed your wishes and orders.

Notwithstanding which, slaves still arrive at Ghat from Nigritia in large numbers, and the Souf people and Shaambah from Algiers, have taken up this Trade largely, and convey the slaves to their own country, which we cannot do; in consequence of which we are unable to gain our livelihood, and are come to a standstill. Why? Because no one at Ghat will take our merchandize, as the Soudan merchants will only take merchandize in exchange for slaves; and not being able to deal in slaves, we cannot find any one to take our merchandize, and the Souf people, and Shaambah from Algeria, have merchandize and take slaves for it, whom they take to their country, where they sell them.

Moreover we have not been able to find out any means of getting our livelihood. We don't know whether the prohibition to deal in slaves is for us alone, or for everybody. To the Algerians a great commerce has sprung up, and we alone have been the sufferers. Five months ago a caravan with 500 slaves arrived at the frontiers of this province, when the news of the prohibitory Firman reached it, and sent it back to Ghat, where it arrived and where all the slaves were sold to the Algerines.

We request you to take up this matter, in order that the prohibition to deal in slaves may be universal, so that we may not be the only sufferers.

On this account we have ventured to present this petition, which we leave in your hands.

From your servants, merchants of Fezzan and Ghadames.

(Signed)

AHMED BEN MOHAMMED INIEN.

(And 16 others.)

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Inclosure 2 in No. 272.

*Vice-Consul Crowe to Consul-General Herman.*

Sir,

*Bengazi, May 3, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report that Hadji Bulwefa, one of the principal merchants in Bengazi, informed me yesterday that he had received intelligence from Ghat, acquainting him of the arrival in that town, in the month of September last, of a large caravan, which was also accompanied by a number of French agents, natives of Algeria, and who had been sent there with a sum of 200,000 francs (8,000*l.*), for the express purpose of purchasing slaves.

It appears that their instructions are to select young slaves of both sexes, varying from the age of 15 to 20, which they purchase at the rate from 350 francs to 400 francs each slave.

Bulwefa further informs me that these agents were using their utmost endeavours to encourage the merchants of Ghat to carry on a trade with Algeria, and, moreover, that Ghouma, now a French subject, was to have proceeded to Twarck with presents, for the purpose of negotiating a Treaty of Amity with the Chiefs of that country. Such a policy, should a Trade with the interior of Africa be really in contemplation, may easily be conceived, as the rapacious and formidable tribes which infect that vast region of Twarck, would be naturally a great obstacle to a trade with Bornou and Timbuctoo, the two great emporiums for slaves and ivory.

Hadji Bulwefa hopes soon to be able to furnish me with further particulars on the subject, when I shall not fail to report the same for your information.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) F. H. CROWE.

No. 273.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Herman.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 19, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople,\* inclosing translations of two original letters, addressed by the Turkish Government respectively to the Governor-General of Tripoli, and the Kaimakam of Bengazi, directing them to co-operate effectually for the suppression of the Traffic in Negro Slaves.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 274.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 9.)*

(Extract.)

*Tripoli, July 20, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship translation of a despatch I have just received from Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Mourzuk, by which your Lordship will perceive the great number of slaves that continue to arrive at Ghat, notwithstanding the late abolition of the Slave Trade in this Regency, which was the sole market in this quarter.

Where these slaves are taken to from Ghat may be surmised from the success of the caravan, composed of some Tuaricks as guides and several natives of the south of Algeria, mostly from Laghouat and its neighbourhood, which started on an expedition to Ghat in October last, as reported in Mr. Bell's despatch of the 29th April last.

A few days ago I was confidentially informed on good authority, that it was the immediate intention of the authorities in Algeria to enrol all the blacks they could obtain in the army of that province; that when purchased they were to be immediately manumitted, and that notices to this effect have been some time since dispatched to Central Africa, which will without doubt revive a considerable branch of the Slave Trade, which has apparently received its death-stroke from the late prohibitory firman.

This, my Lord, may account for the arrival at Cavar of the 700 slaves mentioned in M. de Fremaux's despatch.

Inclosure in No. 274.

*Acting Vice-Consul Fremaux to Acting Consul-General Reade.*

(Translation.)

*Mourzuk, June 26, 1858.*

Sir,

I HAVE to report to you that the courier, with the usual mail from Tripoli, arrived here this week, and by it I have been informed of the departure of Colonel Herman.

The most important news worthy of credit from the interior that has reached us from Ghat and Tibisti is the following:—

About a month ago a caravan passed Cavar with 700 slaves; they had arrived from Bornou, directed for Ghat; their leaders were several Tibboo dealers and Arabs.

The courier whom I had dispatched to Kouka met at Cavar another courier who had been sent by the Sultan of Bornou with the view of collecting information on the state of this country, but he having obtained from the former (courier) what he was ordered in his mission, they both proceeded on their way to Bornou.

The Tuaricks, of Air, have attacked the Uled Sleiman, and the Arabs with them, of the tribes of Giuari, in the neighbourhood of Bargu. In this obstinate encounter, it is reported that the Tuaricks lost a considerable number, and of the Arabs a very few saved themselves by flight.

From Soudan, about 60 slaves have arrived at Ghat, and other similar quantities were expected. This nefarious Traffic seems to be very much engaged in there (Ghat), especially by the Mezabi, Suafa, Sciaaba, and Tuati.

It is said that the French Government has prohibited, and prohibits, the Trade in Slaves in their possessions; but, notwithstanding this, I perceive that this infamous Traffic continues, and which I attribute either to a lack of vigilance, or to the connivance of the authorities of the interior in this respect.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) GAETANO DE FREMEAUX.

No. 275.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, July 20, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that I have been informed by several of the very Sheiks themselves that the Governor-General has levied an impost of a certain number of negroes upon the Governor of each district, as well as the Sheik of each tribe in this Regency.

The quotas of several districts and tribes have already arrived; those of one, numbering about 60, entered the town the day before yesterday, in the morning, on foot, being strongly fettered and dragged along by some of the Irregular Cavalry.

It has further been reported to me that mounted couriers have been, within the last day or two, despatched in all directions to hurry on the forwarding of those not yet sent in, which is accounted for by the daily expected arrival of a Government war-steamer from Constantinople.

Thus, my Lord, not only is the assurance given by the Ottoman Government that no negroes are conveyed to Constantinople by their steamers an evasion, the prohibitory firman rendered a mere fiction, but, as I have heard myself from numbers of the negroes themselves here, their former condition of bondage was far preferable to the present state of things, as they are hunted down and dragged away from their wives and children by those upon whom the above iniquitous impost has been levied.

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

No. 276.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 4.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, August 16, 1858.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 19th ultimo, transmitting translations of two Vizirial letters from the Ottoman Government to the Governor-General of Tripoli and the Kaimakam of Bengazi, directing them to co-operate effectually for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

Having, on the 25th June last, received an identical despatch with the same inclosures from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Porte, I lost no time in waiting upon his Excellency the Governor-General, who stated to me that he had already received and given effect to the Vizirial letters in question.

I moreover transmitted the necessary instructions to Her Majesty's Vice-Consuls in this district, and we are all now on the look-out that your Lordship's wishes, as well as the orders of the Ottoman Government, are rigorously carried out.

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

No. 277.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 4.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, August 16, 1858.*

A MOST flagrant and barefaced infraction of the late firman prohibiting the purchase and sale of slaves in this Regency having lately taken place at Bengazi, I do myself the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a despatch reporting it, which I received from Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at that place.

There being a vessel on the point of departure, I, moreover, lost no time in reporting it to Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General in Egypt, in order to enable him to take such steps as might be deemed necessary there, in a despatch copy of which also I have the honour to inclose.

I then brought the case under the serious consideration of the Governor-General, with such success that his Excellency immediately sent Mahmoud Bey his recall, and hired a vessel expressly to take his despatch reporting the matter to his Government, and requesting the immediate despatch of another Kaimakam.

This prompt measure on the part of his Excellency the Governor-General, I have great hopes will be a good lesson in future to all the employés in this Regency.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 277.

*Acting Vice-Consul Cesario to Acting Consul-General Reade.*

(Translation.)

Sir,

*Bengazi, July 25, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to you that, on the 20th instant, I was informed by a negro that at the Mezsaha, about eight hours distant from this, a certain Ghaghila Binellum had taken by force his (the negro's) wife, a liberated slave, and for several days past had seized many slaves in that neighbourhood, assisted by two others of this town.

I immediately sent to his Excellency the Governor, to inform him of the fact, but no steps have been taken.

On the 25th, I was further informed that the said Ghaghila Binellum and his two companions had assembled a caravan of 42 slaves at the Cuefia, two hours from this, which was to start next morning for Alexandria by land, and as Binellum came into town to prepare provisions for the journey, I heard that on that very night he had at his house a black strongly fettered and concealed, who was crying out all night, and who next morning was dispatched to Cuefia in care of his companions.

I, for the second time, sent to inform his Excellency the Governor to seize the caravan, but he did not even think proper to give an answer to my dragoman, and thus it set off, after his Excellency had an interview of half-an-hour with Binellum at the Castle.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) GREGORIO CESARIO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 277.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to Acting Consul-General Green.*

Sir,

*Tripoli, August 4, 1858.*

A MOST flagrant and barefaced infraction of the late firman prohibiting the purchase and sale of slaves in this Regency having lately taken place at Bengazi, and the parties concerned being on their way to Alexandria, I do myself the honour to transmit to you a



copy of a despatch reporting it which I have just received from Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Bengazi.

On the 25th last, I received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople translations of two Vizirial orders from the Porte to this Governor-General and Mahmoud Bey, Governor of Bengazi, strictly prohibiting the purchase and sale of slaves, in fact, the Slave Trade in any manner whatever, throughout this Regency, and particularly alluding to the Bengazi district.

These I presented to Osman Pasha, who stated that he had already received and given effect to both of them; consequently Mahmoud Bey must have received this order some time previous to the occurrence of the subject of this despatch.

I made a strong representation to the Governor-General, and have, moreover, reported the case to Her Majesty's Government, and Ambassador at the Porte; and as it is in direct opposition to the orders of the Ottoman Government, I have now reported it to you, in order to enable you to take such steps as you may deem necessary on the arrival of the caravan at Alexandria, or any other point in Egypt.

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

No. 278.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 1.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, September 8, 1858.*

I DO myself the honour to transmit to your Lordship translations of two depositions I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Bengazi, relative to the infraction of the firman prohibiting Slave Trade in this Regency, reported to your Lordship in my despatch of the 16th ultimo.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 278.

*Acting Vice-Consul Cesario to Acting Consul-General Reade.*

(Translation.)

Sir,

*Bengazi, August 23, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of two depositions made by 3 slaves, and the Cavass Mohamed Boheit, in this Vice-Consulate, in the presence of two British subjects, relative to the affair of the slaves who had been seized.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) GREGORIO CESARIO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 278.

*Depositions.*

(Translation.)

*British Vice-Consulate, Bengazi, August 23, 1858.*

RAMADAN, the slave of Hag Mohamed el Ghaneiri, married to one of his master's slaves named Mabruka, this day declared that the said Mabruka had been seized, during his return to town from the harvest, and that she was carried to the Mazraha, by Sgheid el Baruni and Abdallah Schiuscian, where there were many other slaves, who had been seized by Aghila Binellum.

(Signed) GREGORIO CESARIO,  
*Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul.*

The slave of Mustapha el Hauat called:—

Hamdu, aged 24 years, married to the freed slave of Ibrahim Scialia, named Teineb, appeared personally this day (Saturday) the 21st of August, 1858, before me Gregorio Cesario, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul and the undersigned witnesses, and deposed that his master Mustapha el Hauat had sent him, together with his wife, to

plough, and that during the course of last month, one morning, his master sent for him to town, and on his return to the ploughing, he did not find his wife, and that after much search he was told that Aghila Binellum and Mohamed Mahluf had seized her, and as he knew that these two individuals had seized some slaves in the neighbourhood of the Mazraha, he came to town and reported the fact to Mohamed Boheit, the Cavass.

Ibrahim Ittughorni, a free slave, aged 14 years, also appeared this day, and stated that last month he had been sent for by Aghila Binellum, who told him to go to plough with him, and after their arrival at Mazraha he had fettered him, and carried him to a cave where 3 female slaves of Aghila Binellum and 3 others of Mohamed Mahluf were, when he left him with them, and went to the neighbouring tents and brought the wife of the above-mentioned Hamdu, with her arms tied behind her, and ropes on her mouth to prevent her from crying out; they then proceeded with them to the Marsh, travelling night and day, and whilst they were reposing in order to bring up some other slaves, they untied his hands, when taking advantage of the darkness of the night he ran away, and came to report to this Vice-Consulate what had happened to him.

Mohamed Boheit, a Cavass of this Vice-Consulate, stated that he had been sent by Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul to Mahmoud Bey the day after this report was made by the above-mentioned slaves, in order to inform him of the facts, and request him to take such measures as he might deem proper; that he proceeded to the Castle and informed his Excellency in person, of the report made by the slaves, word for word, and also give the names of the persons. His Excellency merely answered, Very well, very well. Two days afterwards the deponent went again to his Excellency, and informed him that at Cufia there were 42 slaves, who had been seized by Aghila Binellum and Mahomed Makluf, and another whose name he was not aware of, who were to start off next morning for Alexandria by land. This report was made by deponent to his Excellency in the presence of Abdullah Gaderbuk.

(Signed) GREGORIO CESARIO,  
*Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul.*

Witnesses :  
(Signed) GABBIELE VELLA.  
GIOVANNI MEFSUD.

No. 279.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul-General Reade.*

Sir, *Foreign Office, October 12, 1858.*  
WITH reference to your despatch of the 16th August, I have to acquaint you that I approve the steps taken by you on learning that a flagrant infraction of the late firman prohibiting the purchase and sale of slaves in the Regency of Tripoli, had recently taken place at Bengazi.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 280.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 14.)*

My Lord,

*Tripoli, September 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, the translation of a despatch from Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Mourzuk, by which your Lordship will perceive the continuation of the Slave Trade in the Egyptian territory.

If, my Lord, it is desired to put an end to this branch of inhuman Traffic, the blow must be struck in Egypt, as outside the boundaries of this Regency the authorities here are totally powerless.

I have &c.  
(Signed) R. READE.

Inclosure in No. 280.

*Acting Vice-Consul Fremeaux to Acting Consul-General Reade.*

(Translation.)

Sir,

*Mourzuk, August 7, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to you that during the course of last month a caravan arrived here from Egypt by way of Gelu composed of 75 Megebri, with about 150 camel-loads of the usual manufactures and other articles. Some of these dealers came to Mourzuk, and the others separated for several points of the province.

They are all bound for Ghat; the most part of them are of those who last year had the luck to carry off the 300 slaves mentioned in my report of the 31st December last, who, on their arrival in Egypt, were sold there, and I am assured that from this transaction the owners gained more than 100 per cent. In consequence of which the said Megebris intend to renew those operations.

The news from the interior are not worthy notice.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GAETANO DE FREMEAUX.

No. 281.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 14.)*

(Extract.)

*Tripoli, September 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, an extract of a letter I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Mourzuk, by which your Lordship will perceive the continued arrival at Ghat of slaves, notwithstanding the late prohibitory firman with regard to this Regency.

Inclosure in No. 281.

*Acting Vice-Consul Fremeaux to Acting Consul-General Reade.*

(Translation.)

(Extract.)

*Mourzuk, August 21, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inform you that from Ghat it has been reported that several parties of slaves arrived there lately from Soudan, which were immediately sold.

## TURKEY.

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No. 282.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Alison.*

*Foreign Office, May 4, 1858.*

Sir, WITH reference to a despatch addressed by Lord Clarendon to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, dated the 30th November last,\* respecting the Slave Trade proceedings of the Governor of Massowah, I now inclose copies of two letters from the East India Company's Agent at Aden to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, containing further information relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on from Massowah, and from other places on the African coast, and I have to instruct you again to urge the Ottoman Government to take steps to put a stop to this Traffic.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY

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Inclosure 1 in No. 282.

*Brigadier Coghlan to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.*

*Aden, March 6, 1858.*

(Extract.)

M. BARRONI, of Massowah, informs me that the Slave Traffic from that port increases daily, and that it includes some Christian slaves. M. Barroni adds that an Indian merchant, a British subject, is the agent of one Furrah Gesser of Hodeida, who is the owner of the slave-carrying boat.

M. Barroni applies to me for orders and authority, and expresses an anxious desire that I shall visit Massowah, but I have no vessel available for this long-projected trip, and no instruction of mine can effect the suppression of the Traffic in Slaves unless backed by the means of enforcing it.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 282.

*Brigadier Coghlan to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.*

*Aden, March 13, 1858.*

Sir,

ON the 12th instant a deputation of the Elders of the Habr Tajala, Somali, arrived from Ain Tarad to report that, in fulfilment of the agreement which they made with me in October 1855, they had captured a buggalow carrying thirty slaves from Berbera, bound to Soor, on the Arabian coast. The buggalow, which was taken a few miles from Ain Tarad, is now detained at that port awaiting my orders.

2. To release these captives anywhere on the Somali coast would be again to consign them to slavery; I therefore dispatched the Honourable Company's schooner "Mahi" to receive charge of the buggalow and slaves, and to bring them to Aden.

3. I commended the Elders of the Habr Tajala for their faithful observance of Treaty, and I paid the hire (50 rupees) of a small buggalow which they had engaged to bring them to Aden; they returned in the "Mahi."

4. The Traffic in Slaves is active in this neighbourhood, but I have no means of suppressing, or even of interrupting it. It is said that there were 500 slaves collected at Berbera a few days ago. From Tajourra and from Massowah the traffic is regular and open.

\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 524.

5. These facts are known to the senior naval officer, to whom I have proposed that Berbera shall be immediately visited; but before the "Mahi" can arrive there, it is probable the slaves will have been sent away.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) W. M. COGHLAN.

No. 283.

*Mr. Alison to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 14.)*

My Lord,

*Constantinople, May 5, 1858.*

WITH reference to my previous despatches to your Lordship's office on the subject of the importation of slaves from Tripoli by the "*Feizi Bahri*," I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have made further communications on that subject to the Porte, in consequence of a more recent despatch from Colonel Herman (dated the 22nd February), sent to your Lordship's office, and that I have received the answer inclosed in translation.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) C. ALISON.

Inclosure in No. 283.

*Memorandum.*

(Translation.)

I HAVE made myself acquainted with your communications on the subject of the conveyance from Western Tripoli by the Naval Department of a party of negroes, both male and female.

As it is superfluous to explain, the provinces of Tripoli and Tunis were of old attached to the Naval Department for the performance of the naval services required by the Sultan's Government, and a naval division was formerly available at each of those places respectively.

The Naval Division furnished by Tripoli was recently given up, and in lieu of it, as is the case with the other provinces of the Empire, a number of recruits, sufficient for the annual wants of the Marine Service, was substituted.

It was in this way that a certain number of recruits for that branch of the service was brought up for this year also from Tripoli. If they were levied without the usual process of casting lots, it is because the military institutions of the Empire have not yet been fully applied in that province.

We are convinced that, in accordance with the sentiments of fairness and justice which characterize you, you will acknowledge that it is not right to look upon these persons as slaves, and we have taken this opportunity of making you acquainted with the state of the case.

*May 4, 1858.*

No. 284.

*Mr. Alison to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 4.)*

(Extract.)

*Therapia, May 21, 1858.*

IN pursuance of the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch dated the 4th May, I have obtained from the Porte a Vizirial letter addressed to the Governor-General of Jeddah, and inclosed in translation, directing his Excellency to put a stop to that Traffic within the pale of his jurisdiction.

Inclosure in No. 284.

*Vizirial Letter addressed to the Governor of Jeddah.*

(Translation.)

IT has been reported from various quarters that black slaves are just now being bought and sold in the neighbourhood of Massowah, in violation of the prohibition laid on them.

As it is superfluous to inform your Excellency, Traffic in such an article is absolutely prohibited by His Majesty's Decree; and as contravention to it will give rise to trouble, that prohibition is confirmed; and you will be good enough to prevent the sale and purchase of black slaves in the countries under your jurisdiction.

No. 285.

*Mr. Alison to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 18.)*

My Lord,

Constantinople, June 7, 1858.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translations of two Vizirial letters respectively addressed to the Governor-General of Tripoli and the Kaimakam of Bengazi, containing stringent orders to them to co-operate effectually for the suppression of the Traffic in Negro Slaves.

Zebree Pasha, the late Kaimakam of Bengazi, who is just now at Constantinople, is under trial, both on account of his participation in this nefarious Traffic, and for other matters laid to his charge during his administration of that district.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) C. ALISON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 285.

*Vizirial Letter addressed to the Pasha of Tripoli.*

(Translation.)

18 Shevaal, 1274.

INFORMATION has been received from some quarters that latterly the Traffic in Slaves has been renewed in the neighbourhood of Bengazi. It is superfluous to observe that the Traffic in Slaves has been strictly prohibited by an Imperial Decree, and that an Imperial Order and a Firman abolishing it have been published. As the sanctioning of the continuation of this Traffic will necessarily entail responsibility and trouble, your Excellency is requested, with your well known intelligence, to use with zeal your constant efforts in order to obtain the efficacious means of carrying into effect anew the prohibition that no person should purchase and sell slaves in the districts under your government.

Inclosure 2 in No. 285.

*Vizirial Letter addressed to the Kaimakam of Bengazi.*

(Translation.)

18 Shevaal, 1274.

ALTHOUGH the Traffic in Slaves is prohibited throughout the Ottoman dominions, it has been ascertained from some quarters that latterly negroes have been bought and sold in the neighbourhood of Bengazi. As the continuation of this Traffic is, therefore, in contravention of the basis of the prohibition, it cannot be permitted, and as it is also the first and principal duty of Government officials to do away with this state of things, prohibited by Imperial Decree, you will proceed forthwith to take proper and efficient measures that no slaves be bought or sold in future in the neighbourhood of Bengazi.

No. 286.

*Mr. Alison to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 25.)*

My Lord,

Constantinople, June 11, 1858.

I HAVE omitted to forward in my despatch of the 7th instant, copy of an official note I addressed on the 7th to the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, to thank his Excellency for the promptitude with which he moved the Porte, at my request, to renew the Vizirial orders to its authorities at Tripoli and Bengazi for the suppression of the Traffic which seems still, unfortunately, to exist in that Regency.

The just approbation of your Lordship's office, of the efforts made in the Province of Bagdad for the suppression of the Slave Trade, has the effect of leading the Porte where it will not be driven.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) C. ALISON.

Inclosure in No. 286.

*Mr. Alison to Mahmoud Pasha.*

Sir,

*Therapia, June 7, 1858.*

I THANK your Excellency most cordially for the Vizirial letters to Tripoli, repeating the instructions of the Porte against the Traffic in black Slaves. I am not insensible to the difficulties attendant upon the abrupt abolition of a practice of long standing in Turkey, as well as in other countries; and I am persuaded that Her Majesty's Government, in full reliance on the benevolent intentions of the Sultan in this respect, will render full justice, in the long run, to the laudable efforts of His Majesty's Ministers in the cause of humanity.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) C. ALISON.

No. 287.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Sir H. Bulwer.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 12, 1858.*

MR. READE, the Acting British Consul-General at Tripoli, informed me in a despatch dated 20th July last, that he reported to you that the Governor-General of Tripoli had levied an impost of a certain number of negroes upon the Governor of each district, as well as upon the Sheik of each tribe in that Regency, and that it was supposed that these negroes would be conveyed in a Turkish war-steamer to Constantinople.

Your Excellency will inform me whether you have taken any, and what steps in this matter.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 288.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Sir H. Bulwer.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, October 12, 1858.*

MR. READE, Acting British Consul-General at Tripoli, states that he has forwarded to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople reports upon the subject of a flagrant infraction of the firman prohibiting the purchase and sale of slaves in the Regency of Tripoli, which took place a short time since at Bengazi; and I have to desire that your Excellency will inform me what steps you have taken in this matter.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 289.

*Sir H. Bulwer to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 22.)*

My Lord,

*Constantinople, November 9, 1858.*

I HAVE urged upon the Porte the necessity of strict orders being issued, both to the authorities at Massowah and those of Tripoli, for the better observance of the Sultan's firman relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade: and I have received from the Grand Vizier distinct assurances that renewed injunctions to that effect would be transmitted to the proper quarters.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

No. 290.

*Sir H. Bulwer to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received November 23.)*

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 12, 1858.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatches of the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship a Report addressed to me by Mr. Etienne Pisani, stating, on the authority of Fuad Pasha, that the negroes embarked at Tripoli, whom Mr. Acting Consul-General Reade supposed to be slaves, were destined to serve as marines in the Turkish navy.

This statement is confirmed by Admiral Sir Adolphus Slade.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure in No. 290.

*Mr. Pisani to Sir H. Bulwer.*

Sir,

Pera, November 11, 1858.

IN obedience to your Excellency's instructions, having spoken to Fuad Pasha of the flagrant infraction of the firman prohibiting the purchase and sale of slaves in the Pashalic of Tripoli, his Excellency promised to give stringent and categorical instructions to the new Governor of Tripoli, who is still here, and that he will communicate a copy of them to the Embassy.

With reference to the late Governor of Tripoli having levied an impost of a certain number of negroes upon the Governor of each district, as well as upon the Sheikhs of each tribe in the Regency, and that it is supposed that those negroes would be conveyed in a Turkish war-steamer to Constantinople, Fuad Pasha, after communicating on the subject with the Arsenal, desired me to state to your Excellency that the negroes alluded to have been levied, by order of the Government, for the use of the Arsenal; that they have already arrived here; and that they have been enlisted in the Regiment of Marines.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) ET. PISANI.

No. 291.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Sir H. Bulwer.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1858.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copies of a despatch and its inclosure, from the Acting British Consul-General in Tripoli, and also a copy of a despatch which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General in Egypt, relative to the Trade in African Slaves, which is carried on in the Egyptian territories;\* and I have to instruct your Excellency to call the attention of the Government of the Porte to this matter.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 292.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Sir H. Bulwer.*

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1858.

I RECENTLY received from your Excellency a despatch dated the 9th instant, informing me that distinct assurances had been given to you by the Grand Vizier that renewed injunctions would be transmitted by the Porte to the Turkish authorities at Massowah and Tripoli, for the better observance of the Sultan's firman relative to the suppression of the Slave Trade.

It is with pain that I have now to call your Excellency's attention to facts showing how utterly the Sultan's firman and the injunctions of the Porte are disregarded.

\* Nos. 280 and 303.



The conduct of the Governor of Massowah, as represented in letters received by the Secretary of State for India, proves beyond doubt that unless measures of a stringent character are adopted by the Turkish Government, the assurances of the Porte that they are sincere in their desire to act up to the promises made to Her Majesty's Government cannot be relied on.

Your Excellency is aware that the Traffic in human beings is abhorrent to the feelings of this country; that the indignation of the British people at its continuance has been expressed in terms which show how deeply rooted is that sentiment; and the efforts made by England for its suppression have excited throughout the world a sympathy which has led to a nearly universal declaration from foreign countries that Slave Trade should not be permitted.

In the face of this declaration from the Turkish Government, the Ottoman Governor of Massowah stated to the British Vice-Consul at that port:—

“If the English nation endeavours to stop the Slave Trade, the country will rise, and I shall be obliged to support the rebels, thus following the maxims and precepts of our religion; and if you, Mr. Barroni, continue to take steps to prevent and hinder the sale of slaves, you must bear in mind that the massacre of June last at Jeddah, will be repeated here.”

Such is the manner in which the Sultan's firman and the injunctions of the Turkish Government are obeyed and acted upon by Turkish officials; and such is the language which a Turkish Governor has held to a British Agent.

I cannot permit myself to believe that the Turkish Government will view the conduct of their Governor in a different light to that in which it is held by Her Majesty's Government; but it is impossible for Her Majesty's Government to tolerate such proceedings, and they feel justified in calling upon the Porte to dismiss at once, and publicly, a functionary who sets at naught the orders of his own Government, and also while doing so insults and threatens a British Agent.

The affair at Jeddah, to which the Governor alluded, might at least have proved to him that England has not only the will but the power to redress her wrongs; and your Excellency will lose no time in making a suitable representation on this subject to the Turkish Government.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 293.

*Sir H. Bulwer to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 17.)*

My Lord,

Constantinople, December 2, 1858.

I HAVE the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a translation of a letter which at my request, the Grand Vizier has recently addressed to the Governor of Tripoli, renewing and enforcing the Porte's instructions prohibiting the Traffic in Blacks.

A copy of this important document has been forwarded to Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at Tripoli.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) HENRY L. BULWER.

Inclosure in No. 293.

*Vizirial Letter addressed to the Pasha of Tripoli West.*

AS your Excellency is well aware, the conveyance to His Majesty's States of black slaves, and their sale therein, has been altogether prohibited by a positive decree of His Majesty, and special instructions have been repeatedly issued in that sense to those whom it concerns. The maintenance of this prohibition was considered essential, and all Governors and officers of His Majesty were positively and strictly enjoined to that effect by an Imperial Firman.

Tripoli in the West being a Mediterranean outlet for black slaves, an Imperial Firman was specially sent there, ordering that stringent steps should be taken for preventing such slaves as might be brought down to the coast from going anywhere else; that this absolute prohibition of the Slave Trade should be proclaimed to all slave-dealers, whether residing within the province, or scattered in the interior of Africa; that should, in future, any slaves again reach Tripoli their sale is not to be permitted even within the province,

the slave-dealers in charge of them are to be immediately compelled to emancipate them, and they are to be declared and made free. But as sending emancipated slaves back to their country would be, in fact, exposing their lives to danger, this is not to be allowed; they must be placed in suitable situations or houses, and means of subsistence are to be provided for them. Although depriving slave-dealers of their slaves is, in itself, a species of punishment, it must be progressively increased, and punishment according to law is to be inflicted on them in proportion to the repetition.

Ships with slaves coming to the coasts or the islands of the Mediterranean are to be confiscated on account of Government, their masters are to be imprisoned, and the case is to be reported here. Commanders of His Majesty's vessels cruising in the Mediterranean are to pay the greatest attention to this matter, and to seize such Ottoman men-of-war as they may meet carrying slaves.

The above clause of emancipation is to apply only to such slaves as may be brought by slave-dealers. The emancipation of such black slaves as are of old in the hands of everybody in Tripoli is naturally left *in statu quo*, and dependent on the will of their masters; but as their sale and purchase by auction cannot in future be permitted, this part of the question was to be settled in a manner acceptable to humanity and the calls of generosity.

Considering that it is the first duty of all public functionaries to provide the means for earnestly putting in practice and maintaining the above prohibition proclaimed by a special order of His Majesty, that Tripoli being a Mediterranean outlet for slaves it is necessary to pay more care and attention to the provisions of the above resolutions there than anywhere else, and that the Sublime Porte expect from your intelligence that you will hasten to enforce His Majesty's decrees; I have written you this friendly letter in hopes that you will bestow all your attention and care to devise and prepare the most effectual means for preventing radically and universally in the countries confided to your administration the transport and sale of black slaves, bearing in mind the above details laid down in the Imperial firman preserved in your seat of Government, and referring to it; and that you will absolutely and definitively close the door against the recurrence of acts and doings contrary to His Majesty's wishes.

*Rebiul-akhir* 14, 1275 (November 17, 1858).

(Signed)

MEHEMED EMIN AALI, *Grand Vizier*.

No. 294.

*Sir H. Bulwer to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 18.)*

My Lord,

*Constantinople, February 8, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose, herewith, to your Lordship, the copy of a despatch I have received from Consul Reade, stating that the Governor-General of Tripoli has done everything in his power to carry out the orders of his Government in respect to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY L BULWER.

Inclosure in No. 294.

*Acting Consul-General Reade to Sir H. Bulwer.*

Sir,

*Tripoli, January 15, 1859.*

I HAVE had the honour to receive your Excellency's despatch of the 2nd ultimo, transmitting me the translation of a letter recently addressed by the Grand Vizier to the Governor-General of Tripoli, at your Excellency's request.

I instantly waited upon his Excellency the Governor-General, who stated to me that he had received it, and had immediately taken steps to carry it out throughout the whole province under his jurisdiction.

I beg to state to your Excellency, in justice to the Governor-General, that his Excellency, ever since his arrival here, has done everything in his power to carry out the orders of his Government in respect to the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

R. READE.

**TURKEY. (Consular)—Abyssinia.**

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No. 295.

*Consul Plowden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received September 15.)*

My Lord,

*Gondar, March 20, 1858.*

I HAVE much satisfaction in informing you that the King has taken a decisive step towards checking the export of slaves from his dominions: he seized all the Gallas, in number about 2,000, brought by the Mussulman traders from the South, and gave them their liberty.

He further confiscated all the property found in those caravans, and sent orders to all his Governors on the frontiers towards Sennaar and Massowah, and in Shoa, to act similarly: he even sent word to the Gallas, forbidding them to bring their compatriots for sale under any pretext, on pain of death.

It is evident that, if the King succeeds in completing his conquest of Abyssinia, and lives for some years subsequent, more will be done towards abolishing the Slave Trade in this part of Africa than could be hoped for by many years of extraneous efforts; and should this be achieved my mission here will not have been altogether useless.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WALTER PLOWDEN.

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No. 296.

*Consul Plowden to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received August 9.)*

My Lord,

*Zoramba, June 1, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th December, 1857, containing extract of a letter from Mr. Barroni, my agent at Massowah, to Colonel Coghlan, Resident at Aden, respecting the Traffic in Slaves carried on from Massowah and Sowakin, and ordering me to give him instructions to prevent this traffic.

I informed your Lordship in my despatch of the 20th March last, that the King of Abyssinia has taken an effectual step himself towards the complete abolition of this trade, and I shall instruct Mr. Barroni to do his best at Massowah in furtherance of this object. As regards Turkish subjects, having no definite powers he can only make a note of each illicit sale, and forward the particulars to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople.

At Sowakin he has no power, and the British Government, I believe, no Representative: any check there must be arranged by the English Vice-Consul at Jeddah, at which place the sale of slaves is apparently still secretly effected.

If a Pasha of Jeddah be appointed, who will sincerely labour to suppress this Trade, he may easily succeed; hitherto, I have reason to believe that these Pashas have all protected and encouraged it.

From Massowah it will shortly cease, should the King succeed in his arduous enterprize here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WALTER PLOWDEN.

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TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Bagdad.*

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No. 297.

*Consul-General Kemball to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received April 19.)*

My Lord,

*Bagdad, March 16, 1858.*

SOME time ago I reported to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople that I had succeeded in moving the local authorities of Bagdad to seize a number of slaves, thirteen in all, who had been imported into the city for sale, and I held out the hope of three other batches, aggregating thirty-four slaves, then on their way from Bussorah, being in like manner apprehended. Consequent, however, on the alarm created by the first seizure and consequent, perhaps, on my absence at Moossul, the three batches referred to, as well as some others, escaped detection. The thirteen liberated slaves were, at my suggestion, distributed among respectable Mahomedan families, to be by them taken care of, pending the arrival of Omer Pasha, or pending the receipt of the Porte's orders as to their disposal.

I am happy to state that, on the circumstances being brought to his notice, Omer Pasha at once declared his resolution to execute strictly the regulations of the Turkish Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade. His Highness caused a paper of enfranchisement to be issued to each of the manumitted slaves, and their names to be registered in one of the public offices, in order to their persons being produced at stated intervals, and to their being eventually allowed perfect liberty of action so soon as they should obtain to an age to judge and provide for themselves. I attach much value also to the additional step his Highness has promised to take, of giving general publicity to the last firman received from the Porte, regarding the Traffic in Slaves, and of issuing instructions conformable thereto to the Governors of all the districts within the limits of his jurisdiction. The firman in question, I understand, reached the late Reshid Pasha early last year; but, up to the date of his Excellency's death on the 12th August, had been promulgated at Bussorah only. It is, however, precisely at Bussorah that the greatest facilities exist of introducing slaves into this country, viâ Koweit and Mohamrah, as well as through the villages on the right bank of the Shat el Arab; and when, therefore, the authorities at Suk-êsh-Shookh Nejef, Kerbelah, and Hilleh, were called upon to explain the passage of slaves through those places, they pleaded official ignorance of the interdict, and the same excuse was urged to exempt the importers and brokers from the penalties prescribed in the firman.

More than ten years have elapsed since the Conventions for the suppression of slavery were concluded with the Mahomedan Powers. The principle, if not of a nature to be appreciated by the people generally, is now, I trust, clearly recognized and received by the better classes in this quarter, and has at least been practically inculcated during the period stated, whenever the execution has rested with the English authorities in the Persian Gulf. I would fain believe, therefore, that the time has arrived when some degree of earnestness and intention on the part of Turkish functionaries themselves would suffice to extend and complete its operation; and your Lordship will be glad to learn that this desideratum would seem to have been supplied on the appointment of his Highness Omer Pasha to the Government of Bagdad.

I take the liberty to annex, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the last report from the British Agent at Bussorah.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) A. B. KEMBALL.

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Inclosure in No. 297.

*Vice-Consul Taylor to Consul-General Kemball.*

(Extract.)

*Bussorah, December 17, 1857.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, this morning, of your letter of the 11th instant, and to inform you that the Persian boats I reported were under sequester, have been released,\* but that the slaves are still detained by Government in the Serai.

Qurbec Effendi, Acting Governor of Bussorah, has also informed me that the captain of the guard-ship at Maamer, boarded a bughleh having 78 slaves on board, and that he at once put four men on board to conduct her to Bussorah, and to prevent the nacoda smuggling any of them on shore.

The nacoda of the boat on arriving at Faelle compelled the Government men to land and then disembarked his slaves on Persian territory. Other reports state that the boat had only 8 slaves on board, but all agree that slaves were landed in the vicinity of Mohamrah, and with Hajee Jiabers' (Governor of Mohamrah) connivance. Qurbec Effendi also informs me that four other Soor boats having slaves on board, put back to sea on their nacoda's hearing that the Turkish guard-ship overhauled and searched all suspected craft.

No. 298.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul-General Kemball.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, May 4, 1858.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th of March last, addressed to the Earl of Clarendon, reporting the measures adopted by Omer Pasha to ensure the liberty of the slaves captured a short time since by the authorities of Bagdad; and, in reply, I have to instruct you to express to his Highness the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt his determination to carry out strictly the regulations of the Turkish Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

\* Subsequently released, owing to doubts as to the legality of the seizure, and as to the fact of the slaves being newly imported.—A. B. K.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Canea in Crete.*

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No. 299.

*Consul Ongley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 28.)*

My Lord,

*Canea in Crete, April 21, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Clarendon's despatch of the 16th February,\* directing me to inform his Lordship whether the Ottoman schooner "Rahmaniye" was really confiscated by the Ottoman authorities.

In reply, I have to say that Veli Pasha has informed me that his conduct relative to this vessel and the slaves on board had been approved of by the Sublime Porte. The vessel is still in the hands of the Turkish authorities, but no orders have been received from Constantinople either to sell it or to deliver it to its owner.

The master fled when the vessel was seized and has since returned, but is at liberty on bail.

Veli Pasha considers that the vessel is confiscated.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

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No. 300.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Consul Ongley.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, May 31, 1858.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 21st ultimo, reporting that the Ottoman schooner "Rahmaniye," which was detained by Veli Pasha for having on board 14 female slaves destined for sale in Anatolia, is still in the hand of the Turkish authorities, but that no orders have been received from Constantinople either to sell her or to deliver her to her owner; and I have to desire that you will continue to watch this vessel, and you will report to me what becomes of her.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 301.

*Consul Ongley to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received August 4.)*

My Lord,

*Canea in Crete, June 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 31st May, instructing me to report to your Lordship what may become of the Ottoman schooner "Rahmaniye," which had been detained by Veli Pasha for having on board female slaves.

No orders have yet been received from Constantinople in regard to this vessel, and I will not fail to attend to your Lordship's instructions in reporting what may be decided about her.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) H. S. ONGLEY.

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\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 537.

TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Egypt*.

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No. 302.

*Acting Consul-General Green to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received October 30.)*

My Lord,

*Alexandria, October 16, 1858.*

HAVING received a despatch from Mr. Barroni, Consular Agent at Massowah, under flying seal, for Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, in which he states that the authorities in the neighbourhood of Kassala connive at the Slave Trade carried on in those parts, I addressed the Egyptian Government on the subject, and urged the necessity of strict orders being issued to those authorities by the Viceroy against this Traffic; and I have received a written assurance from Cherif Pasha that the most stringent orders will be sent to the Governor of the Province of Toka to enforce the prohibitory measures adopted by the Viceroy against the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. GREEN.

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No. 303.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul-General Green.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 30, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of a despatch and its inclosure from Mr. Reade, the Acting British Consul-General in Tripoli,\* relative to the Slave Trade between Soudan and Egypt; and I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Egyptian Government to this Traffic, which would appear to be extensively carried on in the Egyptian territories, but which, being forbidden by the firmans of the Sultan, should be imperatively stopped.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 304.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul-General Green.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, November 30, 1858.*

WITH reference to your despatch of the 16th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the representation addressed by you to the Egyptian Government on the subject of the connivance of the authorities of Kassala at the Trade in African Slaves which is carried on in that neighbourhood.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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No. 305.

*Acting Consul-General Green to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 15, 1859.)*

My Lord,

*Alexandria, December 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, approving of the representation I addressed to the Egyptian Government on the subject of the connivance of the English authorities of Kassalâ in the Trade in African Slaves, as reported in my despatch of the 16th October.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. GREEN.

No. 306.

*Acting Consul-General Green to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 15, 1859.)*

My Lord,

*Alexandria, December 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, transmitting to me the report of the Acting Consul-General in Tripoli, as to a Traffic in Slaves having been carried on with the Egyptian territories.

I have addressed a letter to Cherif Pasha on this subject, to which the Viceroy alluded in conversation with me the day before yesterday, his Highness not appearing clearly to understand by what route the slaves could have been introduced into Egypt.

I have not the slightest doubt as to the negro servants in Turkish houses being mostly slaves, and that slaves are brought now and then from the interior of the country for sale; neither have I any doubt as to very large sums being paid for the purchase of the ladies of the harems. Saïd Pasha himself, however, I believe to have always acted in perfect good faith with respect to the abolition of slavery in Egypt; and if slavery is partially winked at by the authorities, it is owing to the difficulty and danger of meddling with the internal arrangements of Turkish families.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. GREEN.

No. 307.

*Acting Consul-General Green to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 15.)*

My Lord,

*Alexandria, January 5, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 31st ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of Cherif Pasha's reply to my communication respecting the Slave Trade carried on between Mourzouk and Egypt, and promising that the Egyptian Government will rigorously enforce the existing orders against the Traffic in Slaves.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. GREEN.

Inclosure in No. 307.

*Chérif Pasha to Acting Consul-General Green.*

M. le Gérant,

*Le Caire, le 3 Janvier, 1859.*

EN réponse à la lettre que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser, sous la date du 23 Décembre dernier, dans le but d'informer le Gouvernement Egyptien de l'existence d'un commerce considérable d'esclaves entre Mourzouk et l'Égypte, j'ai l'honneur de vous prévenir que Son Altesse le Viceroy vient de donner les ordres les plus formels à l'effet de vérifier les faits que vous avez été chargé de signaler de la part du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique, et de faire mettre à exécution dans tout leur rigueur les ordonnances rendues contre le Trafic des Esclaves.

Agréé, &c.  
(Signé) CHERIF PACHA.



TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Jerusalem*.

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No. 308.

*Consul Finn to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received June 12.)

My Lord,

*Jerusalem, May 26, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report that about two months ago his Excellency Sureya Pasha, on hearing that a certain Abderrahhman el Alemy had brought four slaves from Egypt, and was offering them about the city for sale, told my dragoman that he meant to stop the proceeding, and to take and manumit the slaves, bestowing two on the English Consulate and two on the French, for these to do as they might please with them.

We heard no more of the matter till the above-mentioned Abderrahhman came to complain in this Consulate of the injustice committed by the Pasha in robbing him of his property—namely, two slaves—to the value of 7,000 piastres, one of whom the Pasha had given as a free servant to the Bimbashi of the troops, and the other to the architect from Constantinople.

He represented the indignation of the old-fashioned class of Effendis at such innovations; but of course he was informed that he had come to the wrong house to express his grievance.

As he only mentioned two slaves, it is probable that he had already contrived to sell the other two secretly before the Pasha took his measures.

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

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TURKEY. (*Consular*)—*Monastir.*

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No. 309.

*Acting Consul Blunt to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 24.)*

My Lord, *Monastir, April 30, 1858.*  
I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch, together with its inclosure, I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Tripoli, respecting twenty negroes that have recently been brought to Monastir from that place by Major-General Ahmet Pasha.

I have also the honour to include herein a copy of a despatch I addressed on the same subject to Her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 309.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Consul-General Herman.*

Sir, *Monastir, April 30, 1858.*  
HAVING been informed that Major-General Ahmet Pasha (Bajaksiz), who recently arrived here from Tripoli, had brought with him from that place 20 negroes, with the intention of selling them; and that an Ionian subject named Panayotti Paronzi had accompanied them from Tripoli to Monastir, I considered it my duty to call on Mr. Paronzi to furnish me with what information he possessed thereon.

I beg to inclose herewith a copy of the deposition he made in the Cancellaria of this Consulate.

I have brought to the knowledge of Ismail Pasha, the Mushir of Roumelia, the contents of this deposition; and I desired him to ascertain if Ahmet Pasha had sold any of the negroes.

During a subsequent interview I had with his Excellency he informed me that Ahmet Pasha had not sold any of them. His Excellency, however, admitted that two of them had been offered to him by the Pasha, and that he thought proper not to accept them.

It appears that Ahmet Pasha tries to constitute himself the legitimate proprietor of these negroes, and, as such, considers himself warranted to keep them as slaves, and, if need be, at liberty to sell them. He declares that they were all in his possession some time before the emanation of the firman respecting the Traffic in Slaves in the Ottoman dominions; and that he had, in consequence, obtained permission from the authorities at Tripoli to take them away with him. He further states that your letters of recommendation to Mr. Longworth, in favour of Mr. Paronzi, must give explanations thereon.

As I am under the impression that Ahmet Pasha intends selling most of the negroes in question, an intention I think proper to oppose, and as your letter to Mr. Longworth does not give the explanations alluded to, I shall feel much obliged to you by furnishing me, at your earliest convenience, with any information you may possess on the subject.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

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## Inclosure 2 in No. 309.

*Deposition.*

L'AN 1858, aujourd'hui, Mercredi, le 17 Mars, avant-midi, par devant nous, Georges Georgevich, Chancelier substitué du Consulat Britannique à Monastir, est comparu le Sieur Panayotti Paronzi, sujet Ionien, et a déposé, en présence de M. Constantin Maimouka, notre interprète, et des témoins soussignés, ce qui suit :—

“ Vers le mois de Mai 1857, me trouvant à Tripoli, je suis entré au service du Liva Ahmet Pacha. Au mois d'Octobre 1857, j'ai été autorisé par le dit Ahmet Pacha de nolisier un bateau-à-voile de 12,000 kilos environ, pour transporter les bagages et divers autres effets appartenant à Ahmet Pacha, à Salonique, et de là à Monastir. Conformément à ses ordres, j'ai nolisé un bateau-à-voile pour 6,000 piastres, de Tripoli jusqu'à Salonique; dans le dit bateau, j'ai fait embarquer tous les bagages et divers autres effets du Pacha; ainsi que treize ou quatorze chevaux, et dix Arabes et dix femmes Arabes, que j'ai trouvés au service du Pacha à l'époque que je me suis employé auprès du Pacha.

“ Avant notre départ de Tripoli, M. le Consul Britannique de Tripoli étant venu au konak d'Ahmet Pacha pour faire une visite, alors, le Pacha lui a présenté les dits Arabes et les femmes Arabes, et en ma présence, et en présence de M. le Consul Britannique, les interrogea s'ils étaient contents de rester toujours avec lui. Tous répondirent, 'oui.' Le Pacha demanda alors, de M. le Consul Britannique, deux lettres de recommandation pour MM. les Consuls Britannique de Salonique et Monastir. M. le Consul Britannique se retirant du konak d'Ahmet Pacha, m'a invité d'aller chez lui, pour prendre les deux lettres de recommandation. Je me suis rendu, donc, au Consulat, et M. le Consul Britannique en me remettant les dites lettres, M. le Consul Britannique m'a recommandé de surveiller les Arabes en question.

“ Parti de Tripoli vers le commencement d'Octobre, après un trajet de trente-trois jours, nous arrivâmes à Salonique, où nous nous arrêtâmes une semaine, et, après avoir remis la lettre de recommandation de M. le Consul de Salonique, nous partîmes pour Monastir, où nous arrivâmes le 6 Décembre, 1857, et nous nous sommes installés dans une maison qui avait été louée pour Ahmet Pacha. Lors de notre arrivée à Monastir, j'ai remis la lettre de recommandation de M. le Consul de Tripoli à M. le Consul de Monastir.

“ Depuis Tripoli jusqu'à Monastir, j'ai accompagné les dits bagages, effets, et Arabes avec le Kiatib Ahmet Effendi et le Mulasim Yacoub Aga. Un jour, étant malade, dans le konak, le susdit Ahmet Effendi, Kiatib du Pacha, est venu m'informer qu'il avait reçu de Constantinople une lettre (sans nommer de qui) et qu'on lui écrivait de vendre, à Monastir, deux Arabes. Comme il demandait mon conseil là-dessus, je lui ai conseillé de ne pas le faire, parcequ'il pourrait être désavantageux au Pacha, et compromettant, en même temps, pour moi. Le Kiatib, Ahmet Effendi, écouta mes conseils, et il n'a pas vendu les deux Arabes. Quoique j'habitais dans le konak, mais j'ignore si, à l'heure qu'il est, le nombre des Arabes en question est le même comme ils avaient été embarqués de Tripoli, attendu qu'ils restent dans le harem, et je ne sais pas le nombre positif. Depuis une quinzaine de jours Ahmet Pacha, aussi, est arrivé à Monastir.

“ Je fais cette déposition consciencieusement sur la demande de M. le Géraut du Consulat Britannique à Monastir, et je suis prêt à faire le serment aussi, s'il est nécessaire.

“ En foi de quoi, je signe la présente déposition, en présence des temoins soussignés.

“ *Monastir, le 17 Mars, 1858.*

(Signé)

“ PANAYOTTI PARONZI.

“ Witnesses :

(Signé)

“ C. D. MAIMOUKA.

“ A. ANTONIADE.

“ Fait et signé en ma présence l'an, mois, et jour ci-dessus.

(Signé)

“ G. GIORGIOVICH, *Cancellier.*”

Inclosure 3 in No. 309.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Mr. Alison.*

Sir,

*Monastir, April 30, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed, for your information, a despatch, under flying seal, I have this day addressed to Major Herman at Tripoli, respecting 20 negroes that have been brought to Monastir by Ahmet Pasha (Bajaksiz).

I have thought it my duty to apply to Major Herman for further information on the subject, as I have reason to suspect that Ahmet Pasha intends selling most of these Arabs.

Indeed, my partial interference prevents him at present from realizing his intention.

I have spoken on the subject to the Mushir and Vali of Roumelia, and although both functionaries appear to entertain the suspicion that Ahmet Pasha has imported these negroes for the purpose of Traffic, they have taken no step in the matter.

It is difficult for me to offer an opinion to them on the question I have in hand. I have not before me the Sultan's firman abolishing the Slave Trade, and on applying for a copy of it to the Vali he informed that he "was not sure if it existed in the archives of Monastir."

I do not know whether the firman prohibits the sale of slaves already in service, as I have not seen it: the object, if I mistake not, is to prevent Traffic in Slaves.

You will, therefore, much oblige me by transmitting to me a copy of this firman, and I beg to express the hope that it will be accompanied with your instructions for my guidance in the matter at issue.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

No. 310.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Acting Consul Blunt.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, May 31, 1858.*

I HAVE received your despatch of the 30th ultimo, inclosing copies of communications addressed by you to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, and to Her Majesty's Consul-General at Tripoli, respecting some negro slaves brought by Major-General Ahmet Pasha from Tripoli to Monastir; and in reply I have to acquaint you that I approve your proceedings in this matter, as reported in your above-mentioned despatch.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 311.

*Acting Consul Blunt to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 28.)*

My Lord,

*Monastir, June 8, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith inclosed, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch I addressed on the 2nd instant to Mr. Alison, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, respecting the Traffic in Slaves which is carried on in Monastir and the other principal towns of this part of Roumelia. I beg also to place before your Lordship copies of two letters I addressed on the same subject to Mr. Vice-Consul Wilkinson at Durazzo.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 311.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Mr. Alison.*

Sir,

*Monastir, June 2, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch conveying to me a translation of the Firman and Vizirial letter addressed to the Pashas of Egypt, Tunis, and Tripoli, respecting the abolition of the Slave Trade.

The Pasha of Monastir acquaints me that the above important papers do not exist in the archives of this place.

They ought to be sent to him, for a part of the coast of Albania is included within his jurisdiction. It is highly probable that the Ottoman authorities at Durazzo are ignorant of their existence; and I have every reason to believe that these authorities all along the coast do not keep a proper surveillance, and that, in consequence, slaves are occasionally landed there, when they are immediately carried to towns in the interior, and there, of course, are sold at very profitable prices.

It is through this channel, I presume, that 5 young Arabs were brought to Monastir a few weeks ago, and there sold by public auction.

On being informed of their arrival at this place, I immediately addressed a letter to the Pasha, begging him to institute inquiries respecting them; for I had, and still have, the hope that they are entitled to be free.

I beg to submit, herewith inclosed, a copy of my letter to the Pasha. I am unable to accompany it with his reply, as I have not yet received it; and I regret to say that, as far as I am aware, he has not given his attention to the matter I have brought before him.

Moreover, a member of the Medjliss, I learn, has purchased one of these Arabs.

Being now in possession of the Firman and Vizirial letter respecting the abolition of the Slave Trade in the Ottoman dominions, I deem it proper to place them before Mr. Vice-Consul Wilkinson, at Durazzo, and I will desire him to give every attention to the subject.

I believe that Monastir is not the only town in this part of Roumelia where slaves are brought and publicly sold. In most of the principal towns, and particularly in those near the coast, the evil exists, I hear.

It cannot, indeed, be otherwise expected, once the Porte has omitted to furnish its functionaries there with the necessary instructions. This omission goes far to explain the indifference of these authorities.

I beg respectfully again to advance that it is all-important the Roumelic Valessi should be put in possession of the wishes of the Porte respecting this subject.

The Firman and Vizirial letter appears to have been only transmitted to the functionaries of the Sublime Porte in all the islands and coasts of the Empire. In order to secure the results they are intended to produce, their transmission ought to be extended to those in the interior. The surveillance on the coast must remain incomplete so long as it is not in the power of these functionaries to proceed against those persons who succeed, undetected or otherwise, to land their slaves for traffic in the interior.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 311.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Kerim Pasha.*

Excellence,

*Monastir, le 4 Mai, 1858.*

JE viens d'apprendre que 5 jeunes Arabes ont été portés ici, il y a quelques jours, pour être vendus.

Ayant des raisons à espérer que ces malheureux ont droit à leur liberté, je m'empresse d'en appeler l'attention de votre Excellence et de la prier de vouloir prendre les mesures nécessaires sur ce sujet.

J'ai appris que Said Aga, membre du Tribunal Correctionnel de cette ville, peut donner des éclaircissements à votre Excellence regardant ces Arabes.

J'ai, &amp;c.

(Signé) J. E. BLUNT.

## Inclosure 3 in No. 311.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Vice-Consul Wilkinson.*

Sir,

*Monastir, June 7, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a translation of the firman addressed to the Pashas of Egypt, Tunis, and Tripoli, respecting the abolition of the Slave Trade in the Ottoman Empire, as also of a Vizirial letter to those Governors on the same subject.

I received these important papers from Her Majesty's Embassy only a few days ago, and, in availing myself of the earliest opportunity to call your attention to their contents, I have to request you will acquaint me whether the Ottoman authorities at Durazzo, and those in the other places within your Vice-Consular district, have been furnished with the instructions alluded to therein. It appears that the Porte has omitted sending them to the Pasha of Monastir, and I am under the impression that this omission has been extended towards the functionaries on that part of the Coast of Albania included in the jurisdiction of this Pashalic.

I beg also to request you will report to this Consulate the particulars of any act that may be committed within your district in opposition to the rules and instructions set forth in the firman and Vizirial letter in question.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

## Inclosure 4 in No. 311.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Vice-Consul Wilkinson.*

Sir,

*Monastir, June 7, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith an extract from a despatch I addressed on the 2nd instant to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople respecting the Traffic in Slaves that is carried on in this part of Roumelia.

With reference to the 5 Arabs that were recently brought and sold here, I am given to understand that they had been landed by their owner at some place near Cavaia, and not very far from Durazzo.

I regret that I have not been able to secure more ample information on the subject.

As, however, I am disposed to think that these Arabs ought to be liberated, I avail myself of the earliest opportunity to beg you will furnish me with any information you may succeed in procuring regarding them.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

## No. 312.

*Acting Consul Blunt to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 12.)*

My Lord,

*Monastir, June 15, 1858*

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith, for the information of your Lordship, a copy of a despatch I addressed this day to Mr. Alison, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople, wherein I report the result of my representations to the authorities here respecting the Traffic in Slaves carried on in the district of Monastir.

I have, &amp;c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

## Inclosure in No. 312.

*Acting Consul Blunt to Mr. Alison.*

Sir,

*Monastir, June 15, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to report, that during an interview I had yesterday with the Governor-General of this province, I availed myself of the opportunity to ask his Excellency what steps he had taken respecting the 5 Arab slaves that had been brought to Monastir for sale.

His Excellency first expressed his regret at not having replied to the letter I addressed to him on the subject, and said, "I cannot give you a reply in writing for fear of compromising myself. I am aware that the Sultan has abolished the Slave Trade in his dominions, but no orders to this effect exist in Monastir. The local archives have been carefully searched, but the firman you allude to cannot be found."

His Excellency then gave me to understand, that in consequence of my representations, he had prevented the sale by public auction at Monastir of the slaves in question; and had thus obliged their owner to take them away from here.

I begged his Excellency to tell me where they had been removed to. He did not appear able, or perhaps inclined, to give any information thereon.

At my request, his Excellency has given an order to the local police to prevent in future the sale of slaves by auction in the markets of this town.

It will now be my duty to watch if this order is properly executed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. E. BLUNT.

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UNITED STATES.

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No. 313.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 24.)*

My Lord,

*Washington, May 11, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship, herewith, copy of a note, and its inclosures, addressed to me by General Cass, conveying the alleged particulars of an affair which occurred between Her Majesty's sloop "Styx" and the American merchant-vessel "N. B. Borden," off the port of Matanzas.

The Secretary of State expresses his expectation that the conduct of the Commander of the "Styx," in firing at the "N. B. Borden," and boarding her, will be disavowed by Her Majesty's Government, and that measures will be adopted to prevent the recurrence of similar proceedings in future.

The position of Her Majesty's Government, and of the British cruizers, is certainly an embarrassing one. The Cuban Slave Trade is, by all accounts, almost exclusively carried on by the fraudulent assumption of the flag of the United States, and if vessels bearing that flag be not stopped and questioned, the Traffic would be pursued with impunity; while, on the other hand, errors may occur: perhaps an excess of zeal may be exhibited, and innocent vessels may be arrested and boarded. Incidents of that sort, however, excite a great deal of indignation in the American newspapers, and might easily arouse a serious discussion in Congress, accompanied by the development of bad feelings towards Great Britain.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 313.

*General Cass to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Department of State, Washington, May 4, 1858.*

IN my letter to your Lordship of the 10th ultimo, I referred to a statement then appearing in the public journals, that a merchant-vessel of the United States, the "N. B. Borden," had been fired at and boarded by the British vessel of war, the "Styx," off the coast of Cuba, and I informed you that I had received no official information upon the subject, and therefore could say nothing as to the truth of the report, but that I had taken measures to ascertain whether such an occurrence had happened.

I now transmit to your Lordship the copy of a letter from the Collector of the Customs at Savannah, inclosing the statement of the captain of the "N. B. Borden," by which it appears that an unjustifiable act of violence has been committed against a merchant-vessel of the United States, to which the attention of Her Majesty's Government is requested, in the confident expectation that the act will be disavowed, and such measures will be adopted as are called for by the circumstances, and as will tend to prevent the recurrence of similar proceedings hereafter.

I avail, &c.  
(Signed) LEW. CASS.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 313.

*Mr. Boston to General Cass.*

Sir,

*Custom-House, Collector's Office, Savannah, April 22, 1858.*

IN pursuance of my promise of the 7th instant, I herewith inclose a statement of Captain James M. Brightman, of the schooner "N. B. Borden," in reference to the alleged outrage committed on said vessel by the British armed steam sloop-of-war "Styx."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BOSTON, *Collector.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 313.

*Mr. Brightman to Mr. Boston.*

*Savannah, April 22, 1858.*

SCHOONER "N. B. Borden," of Fall river, Mass., James M. Brightman, master, sailed from the port of Matanzas, Cuba, on Sunday, March 21, 1858, at 10 o'clock A.M., bound for Savannah, with a cargo of molasses and fruit, consigned to Messrs. Padleford, Jay, and Co.

When six hours out of port of Matanzas, being about 4 o'clock P.M., the Island of Cuba being still in sight, and while I was on the starboard tack, saw a sail running down, which proved to be the British sloop of war "Styx," she being three miles on our larboard quarter. She fired a blank cartridge, and I not knowing her business, ordered the American ensign to be hoisted as customary, and kept my course.

She then fired a shot which fell at our stern. I then thought the matter more serious, tacked the schooner, and stood for the sloop of war, until I was within half-a-mile of her, when I lay by until I was boarded by the First Lieutenant, or I suppose it was that officer, from his appearance.

As he came alongside I hailed him, and asked him what he wanted with a molasses-drogger? He replied that he would let me know, and came on board. He demanded of me wher I was from, where I was bound, and what was my cargo, and saying they were in search of slavers, and took me to be one. I told him that slavers seldom took molasses to the coast of Africa, and, moreover, they never went loaded so deep, the schooner "N. B. Borden" at that time being nearly to her decks in water.

The lieutenant then said I had a fine vessel, and he would like to take her to Jamaica. I told him he had no occasion to do so, as my vessel was built in Massachusetts, and calculated for the West India trade, and never would be ashamed to wear the stars and stripes at her mast-head, and that her commander had always sailed under that flag, and had been master of a vessel for the last eighteen years, had always done a lawful business, and was ready to nail the American ensign to the mast-head, as our forefathers did, against any nation, and that I did not deserve to be insulted by the British nation.

The lieutenant then got into his boat, and went on board his vessel. I filled away, and proceeded on my course as usual.

The schooner "N. B. Borden" was built at Somersett, Massachusetts, in 1855, is 123 tons, and owned by Messrs. N. B. Borden and other merchants at Fall river, and her owners and commander deserve the protection of the American flag.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed)

JAMES M. BRIGHTMAN,

*Master, Schooner "N. B. Borden."*

No. 314.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, May 31, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copy of a letter addressed by Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Grey to the Commander-in-chief of the United States' naval forces on the West Coast of Africa,\* acquainting him with information which he had received relative to certain vessels sailing under the American flag that are supposed to be destined for the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

No. 315.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 31.)**Washington, May 17, 1858.*

(Extract.)

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith, an extract from the "New York Times" of the 13th instant, describing the boarding of an American merchant-ship, the "Mobile," by a party from Her Majesty's sloop "Styx," off the coast of Florida. Several musket-shots are reported to have been fired from the English cruizer at the vessel in question.

Further accounts of the proceedings of the "Styx" in the waters of Cuba are contained in the accompanying extract from the "New York Herald" of the 15th. It is alleged that the merchant-vessels lying in the port of Sagua la Grande have been subjected to search by an officer of the "Styx" with various circumstances of an exasperating nature.

This intelligence, and other reports of a similar character, have gone the round of all the newspapers; and all, without distinction of party, are raising the cry of British aggression and outrage.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 315.

*Extracts from the "New York Times" of May 13, 1858.*

THE OUTRAGE BY THE BRITISH STEAMER "STYX."—Captain Howe, of the schooner "Mobile," which arrived on Tuesday, complains that his vessel and himself were made the subjects of a serious outrage on the part of a British war-vessel, while on his voyage hither from Mobile, and while passing Key West. Captain Howe has furnished our reporter with the following statement of the circumstances:—

"On the 29th ultimo, I was about twenty-five or thirty miles south of Sand Key Light; there was a good strong breeze from east-north-east, and a chopping sea; my schooner was under a double-reefed mainsail, whole foresail, and three jibs; it was perfectly clear; I judged of my situation from the fact that I sighted Sand Key Light about three hours after falling in with the steamer; the vessel was on the starboard tack, and heading to the northward; I first saw the steamer about noon, a long way to windward, but could not make out what she was; at 1 o'clock P.M., I took my glass and discovered she was a steamer, and was apparently running across my bows: I told the mate it might be an American naval steamer from some port in Cuba, bound to Key West. Having taken my observation and got dinner, I went below and turned in, thinking no more about it.

"Between 3 and 4 o'clock P.M., my eldest daughter came and woke me (Captain Howe had his wife and two children with him); she asked, What is that vessel doing? I got up and looked out of my cabin window (the cabin is on deck), and saw the vessel was running down to me, as if to cross my stern. My impression was that she intended to speak me, and I went out on deck to answer the hail in case she did so. I ordered the mate at the same time to set the ensign. The mate said, 'I believe she is an English steamer.' He had been looking at her with his glass. The steamer, which was rigged as a barque, rounded to within musket-shot of my weather quarter, when I saw he had the British ensign flying. He was then within hailing distance. The schooner's course was not changed. At that moment I heard two reports, as of a musket, in quick succession, and instantly a ball came whizzing between two men who were at work on the rigging. I then ordered the mate to haul the forestaysail sheets to windward; the wheel was put down, and the schooner was hove-to. After this had been done two more shots were fired; one ball struck the vessel abaft the fore chains, and the other passed over the main deck amid-ships. The second mate and two men were at work on the jumper-stay, sitting on bales of cotton amid-ships; they said they felt the wind of the ball as it passed over their heads. I also heard the whizzing of the ball as it passed. I stood with my glass in hand, observing the movements on board the steamer all the time, and saw them clearing away the boat as if to board me. It is the universal custom at sea, if an armed vessel wishes to board another, to fire one gun, and if it is not heeded, to fire a second, and as a last resort to fire a shot across the vessel's fore-foot. I was at a loss to conjecture what the steamer's treatment of me could mean. The proceeding suggested to my mind that she might be a pirate. My family heard the firing, and saw what was passing, and were very much alarmed. My little girl, who is only five years old, wanted to come on

deck, but her mother would not let her. She said, 'Mother, if I was father, I'd get one of Mr. Hopkins' awful guns and kill 'em.' Mr. Hopkins, my mate, kept two loaded guns on board. I confess I felt mad at the conduct of the steamer. The boat, with six men and a lieutenant, came alongside, and without saying a word, the officer came on deck, and addressing no one in particular, asked:—

"Q. Where is this vessel from ?

"I answered from Mobile.

"Q. Where is she bound ?

"A. New York.

"Q. Where is she owned ?

"A. She is owned in New York.

"I then thought it was my turn, and said:—

"Q. Why did you fire into us ? Did you take us for a slaver ?

"A. No ; didn't you see a man-o'-war to windward ?

"Q. How should I know you was a man-o'-war ?

"*Officer.*—Didn't you see our pennant ?

"*Captain.*—I didn't see it, and, besides, we very often see American and Spanish men-o'-war with their colours flying, but they never interfere with me. I have been going up and down the Gulf for twenty years, and this is the first time I was ever interfered with.

"The officer, with head erect, and with a haughty manner, deigned no reply, but asked, What is the number of your crew ? I answered, Ten men ; and I also have one passenger, my wife, and two children.

"*Officer.*—I want to see your papers.

"I went into the cabin, followed by the Lieutenant, and taking out my enrolment and license, handed them to him, keeping my manifest in my hand.

"*Officer.*—Where is your register ? You ought to have a register.

"I answered, Our coasting vessels do not have registers ; they sail under a coast license. I then handed him my manifest, saying, Here is my clearance from Mobile in regular form. He examined it, and laid it on the table. I asked, Have you got through ? If you have, I wish to proceed. It is very strange you should commence boarding vessels in this way.

"*Officer.*—We have orders from our Government to board every vessel we fall in with passing up or down the Gulf.

"The officer then got into his boat, and went on board his steamer, and I filled away and made sail on my voyage. The steamer continued hove-to. I noticed two or three foreign-looking vessels passing, which he paid no attention to.

"The whole proceeding was unusual, uncalled-for, ungentlemanly, unofficerlike, and, on the whole, an unmitigated outrage."

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OUTRAGES BY BRITISH CRUIZERS.—We publish this morning a clear and concise statement from Captain Howe, of the American schooner "Mobile," relative to the recent extraordinary outrage committed by the British war-steamer "Styx." The "Mobile," when boarded, was within thirty miles of Key West, and the first intimation she had of any hostile intentions from the steamer was a rifle bullet, which penetrated part of her rigging. The "Mobile" was not even complimented with the customary order to lie-to. No blank shot was fired at her as a preparatory warning ; but when within a short distance of the cruiser, she received a salvo of rifle shots which, luckily, did no other damage than riddle her mainsail. Captain Howe's statement of the occurrence is plain and straightforward, and requires no comment. He does not at all understand why the outrage was committed—nor do we. It was, to all appearances, a wanton insult, and cannot be palliated or excused. The American flag was flying from the "Mobile" at the time in plain view ; there was nothing suspicious about her ; and she made no attempt at concealment, and no effort to evade pursuit. The officer in command of the "Styx" cannot, certainly, plead ignorance in defence of his conduct. After he had boarded the "Mobile," and, without a show of authority, had examined her papers, he told Captain Howe that he was acting under orders from his Government to board all vessels passing up and down the Gulf. The fact that other American ships have been thus overhauled within the past few weeks, and the further fact that the British fleet on the American station has been augmented recently by a large addition of gun-boats, prove that some preconcerted schemes, which require further explanation, are being put in execution.

We trust that the matter will be noticed by our Government without further delay. In these outrages the British seem to be re-asserting the pretended right of search, and

with greater assumption of authority than they ever evinced before. Their pretensions cannot for a moment be admitted. They cannot be excused for such an act as the one under consideration, even on the plea that they are suppressing the Slave Trade, though slaves should be ever so numerous on the Cuban coast. The grievances, we are satisfied, will be remedied and atoned for as soon as they are made the subject of remonstrance by our Government. There is not a man in the United States who would dream of submitting for a moment to such outrageous and insulting pretensions.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 315.

*Extract from the "New York Herald" of May 15, 1858.*

MORE OUTRAGES OF THE BRITISH.—Captain Albert Gage, commander of the American barque "W. H. Chandler," of Providence, who arrived at this port yesterday morning, has furnished us with the following report of an outrage committed on his vessel, when lying in the harbour of Sagua la Grande, by the British war-steamer "Styx."

The facts were noted by Captain Gage at the moment of the occurrence:—

*"To the Editor of the 'Herald.'*

*"Sagua La Grande, May 2, 1858, 6:30 P.M.*

"I was boarded by a boat commanded by an officer dressed in the English naval uniform.

"He came on deck without asking permission, walked into my cabin, and proceeded to ask questions—such as the vessel's name; where she belonged; where she was bound to; what was her cargo; and a great many others.

"I asked him his object in doing this; and he replied that he was going home, and wanted to make a report of all the vessels at that place. The boat was manned by some twelve or fifteen men, and had arms in it.

"He went on board of all the American vessels, except two that were lying in port, and one Spanish barque. He even went down into some of the vessels' holds.

"The boat had no colours flying; but as she approached a vessel's side, he would show the English flag, and then it would be put in the bottom of the boat again.

"After he had asked me the questions, he wanted my ship's papers. I told him that they were deposited at the Consul's. Then he wanted to see my clearance from New York, which I showed. He examined it, and said that it was not legal, as there was no naval officer's signature to it. I showed him to the contrary, and he went away.

"It was proved after, that the boat belonged to the English war-steamer 'Styx.'

"The Captain of the Port of Sagua la Grande took an account of all the proceedings, and had them signed by the captains of vessels that were boarded; and he declared he would put a stop to such actions, as they have no right to board vessels lying in Spanish ports.

(Signed) "ALBERT GAGE,  
"Master of Barque 'W. H. Chandler.'"

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*Our Reporter's Account.*

One of our reporters yesterday held an interview with Captain Gage, of the barque "W. H. Chandler," whose vessel was searched lately, in the harbour of Sagua la Grande, by a British naval officer. The account of the affair—which was a most undeniable outrage, not only a gross and palpable outrage upon every one of the eleven American vessels that were in the harbour at the time, but also an open violation of international law—runs as follows:—

On Saturday, the 1st instant, twelve vessels were anchored in the Spanish port of Sagua la Grande, Cuba. They were, two ships, two barques, and eight brigs and schooners, all of which were American vessels, with the exception of one, which was a Spanish barque. The wind was not fair for clearing the port, and therefore the "W. H. Chandler" and other vessels were waiting for a change in the direction of the breeze, in order to have an opportunity of putting to sea. Early in the morning a boat was observed by Captain Gage approaching the entrance to the port, having all her sails

set, and displaying the British ensign. Once inside, she sailed in the direction of the nearest vessel to her, which was an American full-rigged ship. On nearing the ship, the flag was lowered into the boat, and oars were used instead of sails. When the boat came alongside the ship, she remained there for about half-an-hour, during which time the captain of the "W. H. Chandler" vainly endeavoured either to discern the motions of those on board of either vessel, or explain the nature of the mission of the new arrival.

The time passed away, and the boat left the ship's side to proceed on her cruise. Her next halting-place was alongside another vessel; after which she proceeded to another and another, till she had visited all the ships in the port, with the single exception of the "W. H. Chandler." It was now half-past 6 o'clock in the evening, and Captain Gage by this time felt no small anxiety to know the object of the stranger, and her intentions regarding his own vessel. All her movements were watched from the deck of the "W. H. Chandler;" but every motion of the diminutive little Englishman only tended so far to make the object of her cruise more and more mysterious. As she left the side of one vessel to sail for that of another, up went the English "jack;" and as she approached the ships, the captain of the "W. H. Chandler" noticed that it suddenly disappeared.

The vessel that was lying next to the one commanded by Captain Gage having received a due share of attention from the considerate visitor, she now headed for the "W. H. Chandler," showing that it was not her intention that a single one should remain isolated or forgotten. As she left the side of the ship she had just been alongside, and came bounding quickly towards the barque, Captain Gage, who was seated near the stern on the quarter-deck of his barque, looked out for the hoisting of the "jack;" but the motions of the boat did not seem to be altogether so regularly conducted for the hour or two preceding the present movement, as they had been throughout the early part of the day, and an additional proof to same, which Captain Gage had previously noticed, was now evident, for the British flag was not hoisted on this occasion. On the boat nearing the side of the barque, the captain perceived that she had upwards of twelve men on board; and on their approaching still nearer, he discovered, by their appearance, that they formed part of the crew of a man-of-war; that one of them had on a naval uniform; that the familiar flag was lying there; and, finally, that fire-arms were lying on the bottom of the craft. The boat herself was a long, stoutly-built English "gig." No sooner was she close to the barque, than she lay alongside, and the man in uniform jumped on board the "W. H. Chandler" in the most "rough-and-ready" manner. The mate of the barque, who was standing near the mainmast, said, "Sir, there is a ladder at the other side of the vessel, that you might have used;" but the officer said, "Oh, no matter, no matter;" and then, stumbling a little, as the ripple on the harbour caused the barque to move, and said, addressing those in the boat, "Come on, look sharp;" whereupon uncouth blue-jackets bounced over the bulwarks of the vessel, as so many porpoises would over the foam of one of the billows of their native element. The officer was a stout, red-faced man, about five feet seven inches in height; his uniform was the dull blue cloth jacket and pantaloons of the officers of the British navy; there were strips of gilt lace in different parts of both garments, and two thick gilt cords running over each shoulder from the collar to the socket of the arm. The dress of the seamen was not uniform, but the blue shirt or jacket was visible on every one of them. After the Commander of the party had superintended the transfer of this division of his forces from the boat to the deck of the barque, he said, in a quick tone of voice, which he addressed to the mate, "Are you the captain of this barque?" To which the mate replied, "No, sir;" and then added, pointing to the quarter-deck, where the captain was seated, eyeing closely the motions of the visitors, "there's the captain aft." The Lieutenant then walked up to where Captain Gage was seated, and the following interview took place:—

*Officer.*—How do you do, Captain?

*Captain Gage* (rising from his seat).—Well, thank you.

*Officer.*—Will you give me the use of a light for a few minutes?

*Captain Gage.*—Certainly.

The captain, having ordered a light to be brought to the visitors, returned to the after part of the vessel, where he was followed by the bearer of the lamp. On entering the cabin for some purpose, it is worthy of note that he was followed thither by the officer of the English navy, without the shadow of ceremony. The captain noticed that the officer had an unusually strong flavour of some intoxicating beverage from his breath, and, therefore, he now asked him if he would have gin instead of water, of which he asked a drink. The lieutenant instantly, and as though by instinct, responded to this, "Yes, yes, I prefer it;" and when the drink had received hasty, but nevertheless thorough consideration, by the British officer, he said, "I want to go below to see what you have on board." Now the captain thought that he should say something, so he asked what the object of seeing his

vessel was. To this the officer replied, that he was an officer from an English man-of-war, and that he had searched all the vessels in the harbour as he was directed.

When below, the officer took a note-book out of his pocket, to which were attached other materials convenient for writing, and he then said, "What is this vessel's name?" "W. H. Chandler," said the captain.

"Who are the owners?" he then asked. "There are a great many owners, so many that I could not begin to tell you their names," replied the captain.

"Can't you tell the name of one of them?" he asked. "Why are you so inquisitive?" returned Captain Gage.

"I am bound to get all these particulars," answered the officer. "I am one of them," remarked the captain.

"Your name?" said the officer. "Albert Gage," returned the captain.

"Where does the vessel hail from?" continued the catechist. "Providence, Rhode Island," returned Captain Gage.

"Is that under the American flag?" inquired the English lieutenant. "Long ago; when I was a boy," the captain informed the examiner, "I learned in geography that it was one of the United States, and the last time I was in Rhode Island it was under the American flag."

"Where is the barque from now?" said the officer. "Sagua la Grande," rejoined the captain.

"Where is she bound to on this passage?" demanded the lieutenant. "New York," answered Captain Gage.

"What does your cargo consist of?" inquired the officer. "Sugar and molasses," rejoined the captain.

With this the conversation ended, and the officer then went about peering in at the cargo in different parts of the ship's hold. Having satisfied himself and his inquisitive propensities, and taken care to note everything down very scrupulously in his memorandum, he returned to the deck. All this time he was accompanied by the captain, who now, also, came on deck. When he arrived in the open light, he asked for the ship's papers, which the captain informed him were at the Consul's on shore, and could be produced if he was very anxious about having them examined. "No, no," said he, "I presume they, like all the rest, are all right." He then said, "Show me your last clearance from an United States' port." The captain then handed him his clearance paper from New York, which he circumspectly examined, and after arriving at the bottom of it he exclaimed, "This is wrong; it has no naval officer's signature affixed to it." Upon this, Captain Gage corrected the officer by showing him the initials, at the end of the document, of the naval officer by whom the paper was signed in New York. Upon this the officer was obliged to admit that he was wrong, after having given the document a more correct, though not less minute perusal.

Everything about the deck of the ship being sharply looked at by the officer, he now said, "Good bye," and got into the boat to take his departure. All the men had taken their seats, and the boat was off, the officer himself saying, "All right." On coming back to the spot where the lieutenant had examined the clearance paper, Captain Gage saw that all was not exactly right, for there lay the visitor's note-book, whose use seemed indispensable to the owner. On making the discovery, the captain hailed the boat, which was still within hailing distance, and she was thereupon put about and returned to the barque. Captain Gage then informed his visitor of the "slight mistake" he thought he had made, when the latter seemed very much astonished at the idea of such a thing, for he would "be d——d but it was the most important thing" he had.

In the meantime, while the captain was engaged with the lieutenant, another conversation was going on between the mate of the barque and the other Britishers. The only thing concerning this conversation which we were able to learn, however, was that the officer and his party were from the British war-steamer "Styx," which was then anchored off the coast of Cuba, about twenty miles from the harbour of Sagua la Grande, whence the officer, who was second lieutenant of the "Styx," and his party of twelve men, had come the same morning. The cove where the "Styx" was anchored, near Sagua la Grande, is called Key Christo.

When the Port Captain of Sagua la Grande and the other authorities of the place heard of the cruize of the British boat, they expressed much indignation at such strange proceedings on the part of the British naval officers.

Next morning the Port Captain called a meeting of the captains, whom he requested to sign their names to a protest, which he had already drawn up, concerning the matter, and which he intended to submit to the proper authorities. Captain Gage was one of

those who signed their names to this protest, and it was signed by every captain whose vessel had been searched.

The captain had conversation with the other captains subsequently to the searching of their vessels, and he was informed by all that a rigorous search of their vessels had been made, and the officer even went so far, in some instances, as to bore casks with an augur, in order to make the search unusually strict. In some vessels the bearing of the officer was more than imperious—it was insolent and commanding. When he arrived at the brig “Scorn,” of Boston, there was no officer on board, except the second mate. He ordered him to hoist his flag, and added that he should have done it before when he saw an English man-of-war boat approaching with her colours flying. The captain was also informed that on every vessel he visited he drank rum, brandy, gin, or some other such beverage.

The above account is taken from the information which we received from Captain Gage, and the story needs no comment to explain the quality of its atrociousness.

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The ink was scarcely dry that recorded in the columns of the “Herald” the outrage committed by the “Styx” on the schooner “Mobile,” when we received the intelligence of this affair, and though the first was of a startling and unusual nature, we were not prepared to hear, so soon in its wake, of this second, and, if possible, more unusual and startling outrage. The British officer informed the “Mobile” that he had received instructions to search every vessel off the coast of America or Cuba, and he appears to be more than strict in the carrying out the duty with which he has been entrusted.

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*Our Havana Correspondence.*

*Havana, May 9, 1858.*

BRITISH OUTRAGES AT SAGUA LA GRANDE.—I have again to notice unpleasant rumours in relation to the conduct of British cruisers in these waters, with the remark that we have not a single metallic messenger, at this writing, along the coast.

One of the gun-boats, under the command of Lieutenant Vesey, visited Sagua la Grande last week, and boarded every vessel in that port loading for ports of the United States and Europe. Is it likely that vessels taking in hogsheads of sugar are going to take them to the coast of Africa for a market? It seems as if ignorance, associated with official dignity, had determined to punch Brother Jonathan in the side until he would be compelled to give a kick. The facts will be made known in a few days.

In relation to the brig “Cortes” there was no discrepancy in the testimony of sailors or passengers, and there is yet to be shown the first shadow of cause to justify the seizure, unless the intoxication of the captain of the gun-boat may make it; and the facts of notoriety made for excuse of the conduct are not true, as stated. These things are to be regretted, but the cure of the evil will not be attained by concealment of the facts.

No instructions have been given to the British cruisers here, I presume, to make a general assault upon the commercial marine of the United States.

If the officers of the home squadron are not afraid of Yellow Jack, perhaps it would be decent to have a vessel or two here; anything small—the “Vixen” or “Fulton”—would be quite enough for the eighteen gun-boats.

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*Havana, May 9, 1858.*

THE BRITISH OUTRAGES ON THE SCHOONER “CORTES.”—The affair with the schooner “Cortes” is much more serious than, from the representations first made to me, I had been led to believe. According, as I have since been told, to the oaths of seven persons, part of whom were passengers on board the “Cortes,” taken at the United States’ Consulate in this city, the captain of the British cruiser was drunk when he boarded the “Cortes.” That having taken copies of her papers he induced her captain to go on board the cruiser with him; that when they returned to the “Cortes” both were considerably excited; that the British captain then denied having seen any papers at all on board the “Cortes,” even refusing to return the passports of the passengers, which had been handed to him for examination.

The captain of the American barque “Glenburn,” which arrived some days since from Antwerp, deeply laden with machinery, &c., also complains of having been boarded by a British cruiser off the coast of this island, and states that in reply to his question, “Did his vessel look like a slaver?” the British officer who boarded him said, “No, but

the orders they had received at Jamaica were, that they were to board all vessels they met with on this coast."

John Bull would appear to have forgotten the lessons he has been already taught by the United States, and it may possibly be considered requisite to repeat them, so that he may be induced to assume a more staid demeanour, so much more suitable to a person of his age, than the tricks he has recently been carrying on, and which, indeed, are no longer to be put up with without a something more pungent than sharp words.

No. 316.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 4, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying extract of a letter from Commodore Kellett to the Secretary to the Admiralty,\* which has been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, from which it will be seen that the schooner "Cortes," recently captured by a British cruizer off the coast of Cuba for being engaged in the Slave Trade, had neither colours nor papers when boarded and taken by the British cruizer.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 317.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 4, 1858.*

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 11th ultimo, transmitting copies of a note, and its inclosures, addressed to you by General Cass, complaining of the proceeding of the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Styx" in bringing-to and boarding the American merchant-vessel "N. B. Borden" off the coast of Cuba; and, in reply, I have to instruct your Lordship to state to the American Minister that inquiries will be immediately made respecting the occurrences of which his Excellency complains.

Although it is notorious that the American colours are often hoisted by vessels which have no right to bear them, and whose assumption of that nationality can only be detected by due investigation, Her Majesty's Government would regret if the attempt to put an end to such a fraudulent adoption of the American flag should entail inconvenience on those who are entitled to carry it, or cause loss or annoyance to those who are engaged in legitimate trade.

The verification of the flag by the production of a ship's papers would scarcely appear to be open to any such objection, and in such an opinion the American Government must be considered to coincide, as it appears from the report of the Commander of the United States' ship "Dale" to the Commander-in-chief of the American naval forces on the coast of Africa, communicated to the Senate by the President in answer to their Resolution of the 19th January, 1858, that the right of visit for the purpose of verifying the flag is one which they have themselves asserted and enforced.

And you will inform his Excellency that the Commanders of British cruizers who, in the execution of their duty, may have to ascertain the right of merchant-vessels to hoist particular colours, are most strictly enjoined to perform that duty with all due courtesy and consideration.

Mr. Dallas has laid before me some papers, being affidavits made before the United States' Consuls upon these subjects, and he does not appear satisfied that I have not at once made some positive declaration with respect to the charges therein contained, and to the future action of Her Majesty's Government.

You will explain to General Cass that, as we have only received these *ex parte* depositions, Her Majesty's Government must, in common justice, first await the result of the investigation which they have instructed the proper authorities to make on these unfortunate occurrences, and that Her Majesty's Government, ever anxious to maintain the most



friendly relations with the United States, will always adhere strictly to International Law and to the terms of their Treaties with that State, and visit with displeasure any public officer who ventures to infringe them.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

P.S.—You will read this to General Cass, and leave his Excellency a copy.

M.

No. 318.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 7.)*

My Lord,

*Washington, May 25, 1858.*

I LEARN from General Cass that a vessel has been fitted out at Charleston for the embarkation of free black apprentices on the coast of Africa. The owners applied for the usual clearance papers to the Federal authorities of the port; the papers were refused, and the question of the legality of the trade referred to Washington.

The Attorney-General has not yet given his decision, nor did the Secretary of State express any definitive opinion. I observed, however, that he inclined to believe that Africans could not be imported into the United States under the form proposed, without a violation of the Federal laws.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 319.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, June 11, 1858.*

I INCLOSE a copy of a despatch from Mr. Campbell, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos,\* reporting the capture by Commodore Wise, of Her Majesty's ship "Vesuvius," of a vessel without any national papers, called the "Marshall," which had fraudulently assumed the American flag.

No. 320.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 15, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Governor Hill to Lord Stanley, which has been communicated to this Department by the Colonial Office, announcing the arrival at Sierra Leone, for adjudication, of three vessels captured with slave equipments, two of which are supposed to be American.

No detailed report as to the circumstances under which these vessels were captured has been received from the coast of Africa, but this may be accounted for by the loss of the mail-packet which was due in this country last month.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 320.

*Governor Hill to Lord Stanley.*

My Lord, *Government House, Sierra Leone, May 11, 1858.*  
 I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that the following vessels engaged in the Slave Trade have been sent up here for adjudication:—

A schooner, Spanish-built, and having no national flag, taken off Cape Verga by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Alecto," Commander Hunt, on the 15th April, 1858, without slaves, but equipped for the Slave Trade;

A brigantine, American-built, named "*Robert M. Charlton*," but having no national flag, taken off Black Point, on the 22nd March, 1858, by Her Majesty's steam-ship "Medusa," Commander Bowden: no slaves, but with slave-equipment;

A barque, American-built, named "*Minnetonka*," but having no national flag, taken off Banda Point, on the 19th April, by Her Majesty's brig "Heron," Commander Truscott; no slaves, but with slave-equipment.

I have, &c.  
 (Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL.

No. 321.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June 18, 1858.*  
 I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying extracts from the log of Her Majesty's gun-boat "*Jaseur*,"\* which has been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, showing the names of the vessels boarded by her whilst cruising off the coast of Cuba, between the 17th of February and 14th of May last.

I am, &c.  
 (Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 322.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord, *Foreign Office, June 21, 1858.*  
 I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying extracts of a letter from Commodore Wise to Rear-Admiral the Honourable Sir F. W. Grey,† which have been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, giving the particulars of the capture of two vessels, equipped for the Slave Trade, supposed to be American, but without papers or colours, viz., the "*Almeida*," of New York, and the "*Robert M. Charlton*."

Your Lordship will perceive that the "*Robert M. Charlton*" is one of the vessels whose arrival at Sierra Leone, for adjudication, was reported in a letter from the Governor of that Colony, of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch of the 15th instant.

I am, &c.  
 (Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 323.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 21.)*

My Lord, *Washington, June 8, 1858.*  
 I HAVE thought it right to communicate verbally to the Secretary of State the inclosed extract of a letter from Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, in which he refers to a statement of the late United States' Consul in that island.

Mr. Blythe affirms to Mr. Crawford that he had represented in the strongest terms to the Department of State, the objectionable practices of American citizens in connection with the Slave Trade, and that he had suggested measures calculated to correct the evils attending the fraudulent transfer of American vessels in Cuba, demanding at the same

\* Class A, Inclosure in No. 181.

† Ibid., No. 119.

time authority to visit all ships under the United States' flag suspected of being about to engage in the piratical Traffic. To neither of these applications had he received any answer.

General Cass was under the impression that no such remarks had been addressed to him, but on consulting the Assistant-Secretary of State, Mr. Appleton stated he believed that the representations of the Consul in regard to the transfer of ships at Cuba had been referred, without any result however, to the Attorney-General; and in reference to the power of inspecting vessels nothing had been done, General Cass being under the impression that the American Consul had authority, in conjunction, at least, with the local police, to visit suspected vessels of his country in Spanish ports.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER.

Inclosure in No. 323.

*Consul-General Crawford to Lord Napier.*

(Extract.)

*Havana, May 22, 1858.*

CONSUL BLYTHE, of the United States, who has just left this, informed me that he had in the strongest manner represented these objectionable practices of his countrymen to his Government. He had asked that American vessels sold here should not be allowed to retain their American registers, but should be obliged to give bond, to the Consul's satisfaction, even if sold here to an American citizen, that, leaving Cuba under a sailing-letter, they should proceed to a port in the United States, to be registered *de novo*.

He also asked for authority to visit all American vessels which he might have reason to suspect as being about to engage in slave-trading, whilst in port, and previous to their putting to sea; but to neither of these applications did he receive any answer, and so he had no authority to interfere with, or hinder, the abuse of the American flag by its being devoted to the purpose of slave-trading, which he saw was going on to an almost unlimited extent.

No. 324.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, June 25, 1858.*

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, I inclose for your information a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mr. Dallas, the United States' Minister at this Court, requesting him to recall the attention of his Government to the communication made by Mr. Blythe, the United States' Consul at Havana, to the Department of State at Washington, on the subject of the objectionable practices of American citizens in connection with the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 324.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Dallas.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, June 24, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch which I have received from Lord Napier, Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, inclosing an extract of a private letter addressed to his Lordship by Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba.\*

It will be seen from these papers that Mr. Blythe, the United States' Consul at Havana, has represented in the strongest terms to the Department of State at Washington, the objectionable practices of American citizens in connection with the Cuban Slave Trade, and that he has suggested measures calculated to correct the evils attending the fraudulent transfer of American vessels to Cuban slave-traders; and further, that he has demanded

\* No. 323 and Inclosure.

authority to visit all ships under the United States' flag suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

But you will see also, from what passed at the conversation between Her Majesty's Minister and General Cass, that no steps have been taken for giving effect to the suggestions of Mr. Blythe, or to furnish him with the authority which he asked for, of inspecting American vessels.

The subject, however, is one of so much importance, as striking at the root of the Cuban Slave Trade, that I request you will be good enough to recall the attention of your Government to the communications of Mr. Blythe, and that you will express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that the Government of the United States will give a substantial proof of their desire to put a stop to the Cuban Slave Trade, by furnishing their Consular authorities in Cuba with the power necessary to enable them to prevent vessels that may have been fraudulently transferred to the slave-traders, from leaving the ports of that island with their American papers, and under American colours, and also to enable them to deal with American vessels that may be suspected of being about to engage in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 325.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received June 28.)*

My Lord,

*Washington, June 10, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship, with reference to my despatch of the 7th instant, that General Cass yesterday informed me that the Government of the United States had on several occasions remonstrated with the Government of Spain respecting the continued prosecution of the African Slave Trade in the Spanish West Indian Colonies.

The Secretary of State offered to furnish me with a note of the dates at which these representations were made. It will be my duty to forward this memorandum to your Lordship as soon as I receive it.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 326.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July 5.)*

My Lord,

*Washington, June 21, 1858.*

IN conformity with your Lordship's instructions, I waited upon General Cass this forenoon for the purpose of presenting him with a copy of your despatch of the 4th instant, conveying the views of Her Majesty's Government with reference to the detention of American vessels in the Gulf of Mexico.

Before I had time to make the communication referred to, General Cass hastened to inform me that he had just received very gratifying intelligence from Mr. Dallas. He then showed me a Minute drawn up by your Lordship, embodying the substance, or the conclusions, of a long conversation which you had held with the American Minister on the 8th instant, to the effect that Her Majesty's Government adhered to the general principles of maritime law asserted by General Cass; that they did not defend the recent actions of British officers, if correctly reported; and that, pending the negotiation of some means for the verification of the nationality of vessels, orders had been issued for the discontinuance of the search of American ships.

General Cass also permitted me to read a portion of the despatch accompanying this document, in which Mr. Dallas congratulated himself and his Government on what he deemed to be a change in the sentiments of Her Majesty's Government on the question under discussion, since that discussion was opened in London.

I then read to General Cass your Lordship's instruction, and placed a copy of it in his hands: remarking that, although not so expressly favourable as the Minute above mentioned to the views of the United States, it referred to further intelligence to be obtained from English sources, and would not have borne the character of a definite reply, even if it had not been superseded by the subsequent assurances made by your Lordship to

Mr. Dallas, which might be considered to contain a more matured expression of opinion on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

General Cass expressed his satisfaction with the tenour of your Lordship's remarks to Mr. Dallas, and his confidence that the questions at issue would be amicably adjusted. He did not state his approval of the arrangement indicated by your Lordship as having been entered into with France; nor did he, on the other hand, exclude the practicability of some measure being contrived for the verification of the right of merchant-vessels to the colours which they display.

I did not fail to call the attention of General Cass to the exercise of the right of visitation or inquiry by Commander McBlair, of the United States' ship "Dale," in the case of the French brig "Merle," as reported in the documents presented to the Senate.

The Secretary of State admitted that American officers might occasionally practise what he termed "Quarter-deck Law," but the right was not claimed by the United States, nor would the conduct of an officer acting thus be approved.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 327.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received July, 5')*

My Lord,

*Washington, July 21, 1858.*

I HAVE thought it right to read to General Cass the extract of Commodore Kellett's letter to the Admiralty, transmitted in your Lordship's despatch of the 4th June, reporting that the "Cortes" had been captured, without papers or colours, and fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

The Secretary of State admitted, as he had done before, that some misstatement or exaggeration might have occurred in the accounts circulated, and that there was, indeed, strong reason to suspect the "Cortes" of being a slaver. He allowed, also, that the depositions made before the American Consul were by persons of suspected character, and were of an improbable nature.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER.

No. 328.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 9, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of reports from Commander Vesey, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Styx," which I have received from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, respecting the proceedings of Her Majesty's cruisers on the coast of Cuba.

I also inclose a copy of the sentence pronounced in the Vice-Admiralty Court of Jamaica, in the case of the schooner "Cortes," captured by Her Majesty's gun-boat "Forward."

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 328.

*Commander Vesey to Commodore Kellett.*

(Extract.)

*"Styx," off Havana, March 23, 1858.*

YESTERDAY I wrote to you by "Jasper," informing you of the detention of a Spanish schooner, with casks on board; and also of a ship, name and nation unknown, but fully equipped for the Slave Trade, and with a large sum of money on board.

As I was much pressed for time, I could only tell you our movements, and was unable to enter into details; I will, therefore, do so now. I found much difficulty in procuring water at Matanzas, as the heavy weather prevented our boats going up the river; and as the ship was detained in consequence, I went to Havana by train for the

purpose of communicating with the Consul-General. I also visited the Governor of Matanzas and the Captain of the Port.

I am informed that the Spanish men-of-war have released 7,050 slaves within the last year, and that five detained vessels are now lying in Havana. The Spanish men-of-war are nearly all laid up now, in consequence of the hard work; and the Slave Trade is going on more actively than ever.

An American brigantine sailed from Havana last week; an American barque and brigantine, a Spanish barque and brigantine, are now fitting out, besides others, I believe, of which I have no information. That all this can be done without the knowledge of the Spanish authorities, is impossible; and of the open manner in which the ship captured by us and the "Jasper" must have been fitted, you can judge when you see her.

I think there are no slavers fitting at Matanzas. Vessels, of course, fit in the smaller ports, but we know little of them. On the south side the importation of slaves is ceasing at St. Jago de Cuba, as planters are selling off and leaving, in consequence of the frequent earthquakes. On the north side, slaves are landed at St. Juan de los Remedios, at the cays in the Bahama Channel, and at Sivisa Cay, in the Colorados; but, of course, many slavers land where they can.

Small slavers, I believe, land their own cargoes; larger ones, like our capture, at neighbouring cays, whence they are brought in droghers. Landing the Bozals, as the new slaves are called, is a difficult matter, for the country people come down and carry them off, and the importers are afraid to claim them, as they have no papers to show, and as the Government would seize on a slave that could not speak Spanish. A good slave is now worth 1,500 dollars, and a household one, 2,000 dollars.

Inclosure 2 in No. 328.

*Commander Vesey to Commodore Kellett.*

(Extract.)

"Styx," off Havana, April 17, 1858.

THERE are at present about nine slavers in Havana, but they do not seem inclined to start; all but two are under American colours, and they seem generally to go to Cay West to take in the cargoes for the coast.

Inclosure 3 in No. 328.

*Commander Vesey to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Stewart.*

"Styx," at Sea, Lat. 23° 21' N., Long. 31° 23' W.,

May 1, 1858.

(Extract.)

HER Majesty's gun-boat "Forward" has detained the "Cortes," a beautiful schooner of about 170 tons, and fully equipped for the Slave Trade.

Lieutenant Davies having omitted to send an important witness in the "Cortes," I have dispatched the "Forward" to Port Royal.

The "Cortes" passed this ship in the night, and if the wind had not been light would have escaped the "Forward," as she is said to be the fastest vessel that ever left Havana.

Slavers are running in great numbers, and the Trade was never so active as now; it is, however, very difficult to detain the American vessels, and many give us the slip.

Inclosure 4 in No. 328.

*Commander Vesey to the Secretary to the Admiralty.*

Sir,

"Styx," off Havana, May 29, 1858.

IN compliance with the instructions, I have the honour to inclose a copy of my letter to Commodore Kellett, C.B., reporting the cases of vessels boarded under suspicion of fraudulently assuming the flag to which they were not entitled.

I have called off Havana for the express purpose of sending it by the first opportunity.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

C. VESEY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 328.

*Commander Vesey to Commodore Kellett.*

Sir,

*"Styx," off Havana, May 27, 1858.*

IN compliance with my Instructions for the suppression of Slave Trade, I have the honour to inclose reports of vessels boarded under suspicion of fraudulently assuming a flag to which they were not entitled, and who have threatened to report the circumstance to their respective Governments.

The American schooner "N. B. Borden," of Fall River, was boarded on the 21st of March, and I made no special report at that time, as the master parted apparently on good terms with us, even offering a present to the boarding officer; and it is only through the American papers that I have been made aware of a complaint being lodged.

I had made no special entry about her, and the officer who boarded her being at this time away in a prize, I am unfortunately only able to give his verbal report to me.

I have to remark that from the number of vessels I have strong reasons to suspect, I am obliged to be continually boarding, and the work is so harassing that I can only spare one officer, and one petty officer at a time as a witness; and further, that from the number of vessels fallen in with, it would be almost impossible for me to send a special report in each case. I therefore only send reports of those cases where vessels have threatened to complain; and I beg leave to state that the utmost moderation has been observed by me in these cases; a trustworthy officer being sent, the instructions strictly complied with, and, in all cases, an offer made to note in the log all that has occurred.

I believe that a combination has been entered into at Havana by the masters of American merchant-vessels for the purpose of getting one of the commanders of the English cruisers removed, and thereby deterring others from boarding suspected vessels bearing an American flag. They believe that, if successful in this, they will obtain the whole of the slave-carrying trade to Cuba, and reap enormous profits with impunity.

That vessels are now running under the American flag is proved by the schooner "Cortes" (detained by "Forward") having an American flag, which she hauled down, and also having an American master.

Also, within the last week, the brigantine "Huntress," of Charlestown, from Matanzas, was chased in among the reefs off Key West: she was detained there for violating the customs laws, when her master deserted, and she was then found to be equipped for the Slave Trade. I have also before sent in a list of suspected vessels, nearly all under American colours, but most of whom in reality have false papers, and belong to Spaniards. From what I have ascertained since I have been here, I can state with confidence that in a short time nearly every slaver will run under the protection of the American flag, and that it will be almost impossible for Her Majesty's cruisers to detain them, as they will all clear with legal cargo stowed over the other.

From the great increase in the American West India trade we are brought in contact with vessels of that nation much more than formerly, and the position of the commanders of vessels cruising is rendered very difficult.

In stating my own case, I have only to say that I wish to carry out my instructions faithfully, and have always endeavoured to perform this disagreeable duty with the utmost moderation: the best proof that I can offer of my having done so, is by showing that on this cruise I have boarded 116 vessels, 61 of them Americans, and that one of the complaints is from a vessel whose master made nothing of it at that time, and another is from a vessel which was brought-to, but not boarded.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) C. VESEY.

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 Inclosure 6 in No. 328.
*Report.*

IN the case of the American schooner "N. B. Borden," of Fall River, bound from Matanzas to Savannah, with molasses. Boarded March 21, 1858.

At 11.14 got up steam to chase several suspicious-looking vessels, being in-shore.

At 3 p.m. a rakish schooner, under a press of sail, answering the description of one suspected, attempted to cross our bows, and get to windward, she being on the port tack. Fired two blank guns in succession, on which she hoisted American colours, but still kept on in a most suspicious manner. Fired two shotted guns in succession under her stern, on

which the schooner hove-to. Sent on board Mr. Nicholetts, mate: one Lieutenant being sick, and the other recovering from a fever.

On Mr. Nicholetts' return, he informed me that the master asked him what we meant by firing those "God-damned balls" across his stern, and thereby frightening his family: that he had returned a civil answer, and told the master we had mistaken his vessel for another, and that no annoyance was meant: that the master at first was much excited, and said that he could eat our boat's crew, but afterwards calmed down, and forced some cigars upon him as a present.

The "N. B. Borden" was not detained more than five minutes.

(Signed) C. VESEY, *Commander.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 328.

*Report.*

IN the case of the "Mobile," American schooner, of New York. Boarded April 29, 1858.

Extract from log, April, 29, 1858:—

At 1:30 P.M., trimmed: 2, bore-up to close a schooner; fired a musket to make her show her colours: 2:5, fired a musket: schooner showed American colours; fired a musket ball-cartridge to make her heave-to: 2:15, fired a musket ball-cartridge; schooner shortened sail. 2:20, fired a musket ball-cartridge; schooner partly hove-to. Boarded the American schooner "Mobile," of New York.

The captain of schooner was very insulting to boarding-officer. I have the honour to inclose the boarding-officer's statement, and have to remark that I can rely upon his discretion and command of temper.

The "Mobile" was boarded in consequence of her very suspicious movements, and the ball-cartridge were fired by the gunner of the ship, in my presence, he having strict orders from me to fire high, She was not struck by them, and had no men aloft at the time.

I was unable to bring her to without firing, as our steam was not up, and the breeze strong: she would not shorten sail, though I waived, hailed, and squared the main-yard several times.

She had so much way on when boarded that our boat was damaged. Our colours were flying for more than half-an-hour before she was boarded, and could easily have been seen.

Detained ten minutes, partly by her own fault.

(Signed) C. VESEY, *Commander.*

Inclosure 8 in No. 328.

*Lieutenant Goold to Commander Vesey.*

Sir,

*"Styx," at Sea, May 25, 1858.*

IN compliance with your orders on the 29th April last, between the hours of 2 and 3 P.M. I proceeded in the ship's cutter to board the American schooner "Mobile."

I beg to represent that a delay of several minutes was caused by the captain of the "Mobile" not keeping his vessel to the wind, and thereby giving the cutter a much greater distance to pull than necessary; and no rope or any assistance was offered to the boat in going alongside, although the schooner was moving very fast through the water.

The moment the cutter reached the "Mobile," I climbed up the side by the rigging-plates, and jumped on board: asked one of the crew if I could see the captain, whom he pointed out to me standing abaft. I then went to him with the boarding-book, and asked the usual questions put to captains of merchantmen. His answers were made in a very disrespectful manner, and very loud tone of voice, although I was close to him; and he made several impertinent remarks quite uncalled-for, and thought the steamer was a "God-damned pirate;" and that he had been fired into, which I denied. I told him that our main-yard had been squared, and the ship hove-to for several minutes, and several blank musket charges fired to call his attention, and a cutter manned ready for lowering; that he must have known we wished to communicate, and he ought to have brought his vessel to, but, from continuing his course, and apparently taking no notice, a rifle-ball was fired



towards his vessel, but over and wide. This he declared was false, and said, had he the means of returning it, he would, "by God!"

I then said I should be glad if he would quietly show his papers, and requested him not to cause more delay than necessary for their examination. At first he appeared to hesitate in producing the documents, and I repeated the request. He then went to his cabin, and made several more remarks connected with the ship, and said we had no authority to bring him to.

I followed him into his cabin. He opened a tin-box containing his papers, and handed them to me. He then said he supposed I took him for a "God-damned slaver," which he had been formerly, and would be again, but guessed I was mistaken this time. He then became so enraged that he could not speak, stamping upon the deck, and one of his children ran to him crying, and requested him to be quiet.

I told him it was impossible to examine his papers whilst his behaviour was such; and after a few minutes' more delay, I continued the examination. Being quite satisfied that they were correct, I laid them on the table, and told him he had caused much delay; all that was required could have been done in five minutes.

He said he did not believe we were a man-of-war. I told him to look at the pennant. He said he did not care a "damn:" he would hoist one himself. I told him if he did I would haul it down.

I was about to return to the boat when he ordered the mate to fill immediately, but he did not obey the order until the cutter shoved off.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) WM. HY. GOOLD.

Inclosure 9 in No. 328.

*Report.*

IN the case of the American brigantine "Tanner," of Brook Haven, hailed May 14, 1858.

Extract from log :—

At 1:30 P.M. trimmed, drew the fires forward, and got the steam up; 2:30, shortened sail and proceeded in chase of a brigantine; altered courses requisite in chase: 4:30, passed a Spanish line-of-battle ship and two frigates steering to the westward. Brigantine showed American colours; fired a blank cartridge to make her heave-to; 4:40, fired a shot astern; 4:45, fired a shot; 4:50, brigantine hove-to; 5, spoke the brigantine "Tanner," from New Orleans to Boston.

Remarks :—When first observed she was under easy sail; our colours being shown, she shortly afterwards hoisted the American flag, and made sail, apparently endeavouring to escape.

The breeze being strong, she gave us a long chase to windward, and took no notice of our blank cartridges. A shotted gun was then fired, when she hauled down her main-topmast staysail, but hoisted it immediately. A second shot sent nearer made her heave-to.

She was detained ten minutes from the time of her heaving-to. I did not board, as I saw white women on board.

(Signed) C. VESEY, *Commander.*

Inclosure 10 in No. 328.

*Sentence in the case of the Schooner "Cortes."*

In the Vice-Admiralty Court of Jamaica.

AT a Court holden at the town of Saint Jago de la Vega, in the Island of Jamaica, on Friday, the fourteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, before the Worshipful Bryan Edwards, Esquire, Judge and Commissary of the Vice-Admiralty Court of Jamaica, lawfully constituted and appointed.

Our Sovereign Lady the Queen against the schooner or vessel called the "Cortes," nation unknown, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, taken and seized by Henry Davies, Esquire, Lieutenant and Commander of Her Majesty's steam gun-boat "Forward."

In pain of parties cited not appearing, Heslop, Attorney-General, referred to the monition heretofore brought in duly executed, and also to the affidavit of Jabez Henry William Rowlett, second master of and belonging to Her Majesty's steam gun-boat "Forward," heretofore exhibited and remaining in the Registry of this Court, and to the application of Henry Kellett, Esquire, Companion of the Bath, Commodore, and senior naval officer at the time on this station, of date the twelfth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, also remaining in the said Registry.

The Judge, at his petition, having heard the said affidavit read on his motion as counsel on behalf of Her Majesty by interlocutory decree, pronounced the said schooner or vessel "*Cortes*," nation unknown, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, to have been at the time of the seizure thereof equipped for and engaged in the Slave Trade, and employed in the illegal transport of negroes or others, for the purpose of consigning them to slavery, and as such, by virtue of the statute or statutes in such case made and provided, or otherwise, subject and liable to forfeiture and condemnation to our Sovereign Lady the Queen, her heirs and successors, and condemned the said schooner or vessel "*Cortes*," nation unknown, her tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the cargo laden therein, and brought to Jamaica accordingly.

And further pronounced that the said cargo should be sold, and that the said schooner or vessel should be broken up and be entirely demolished, and that the materials thereof should be sold in separate parts, as in and by law in such case made and provided, on or after the first day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, unless in the meantime the said schooner or vessel shall be taken into Her Majesty's service, upon payment of such sum as the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall deem a proper price for the same, there being at present on this station no officer authorized to determine whether the said schooner or vessel will or will not be required for Her Majesty's service.

No. 329.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received July 11.)

*Washington, June 27, 1858.*

(Extract.)

ON the 25th instant I received letters from Vice-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, which enabled me to communicate verbally to the Secretary of State an extract of an instruction addressed by the Admiral to Commodore Kellet, for his guidance on the coast of Cuba, as well as some passages from the correspondence of Commander Peel, of the "*Buzzard*," placing his conduct in reference to the American vessel "*Clarendon*," in a very different light from that in which it was exhibited by the newspapers.

Inclosure 1 in No. 329.

*Commander Peel to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Stewart.*

*"Buzzard," at Sea, Lat. 23° 12' N., Long. 80° 5' N.,  
June 5, 1858.*

(Extract.)

ON the afternoon of the 2nd of May, on my way to Lobos Cay for the purpose of landing there materials for erecting a light-house, I observed a large vessel lying just inside the white water, and supposing the vessel to be on shore, I immediately bore up for the purpose of rendering assistance had it been required. On closing the vessel I hoisted colours and anchored near her, distant about 400 yards, she being from two to three miles outside any cay, and at a very unsafe and exposed anchorage. The vessel having hoisted no colours, I sent a boat on board to ask the master if he would hoist them: he in a most insolent manner refused. The officer then returned to the "*Buzzard*" and reported to me what had occurred; I then went on board the vessel myself, accompanied by Mr. Akaster, master, when the refusal to hoist the colours was still persisted in, and I was told by the master of the merchant-ship that "if I wanted to see them I had better go aft and see them on the deck:" this I of course refused to do. I then said, "As I see no Spanish flag on any cay, nor any Spanish authority to whom I can report you, I consider it my duty to make you hoist your colours," which, after a great deal of demurring, was done. She proved to be the "*Clarendon*" of New York.

Inclosure 2 in No. 329.

*Commander Peel to Vice-Admiral Sir H. Stewart.*

(Extract.)

*"Buzzard," June 9, 1858.*

THE ship "Clarendon" was in no port whatever; the officer never proceeded to the cabin or went off the quarter-deck. He did not command, but civilly asked for the colours to be hoisted. The papers were never asked for. The "Buzzard" never fired either blank or shot near or at the "Clarendon." Captain B., as he is called in the papers, never asked me to go into the cabin, and no officer of the "Buzzard" ever moved an inch abaft the mainmast. I had no pistol nor any arms besides my sword, which I never attempted to draw: no force was used, nor did any foremast-man of the "Buzzard" ever go on board the said ship.

No. 330.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury — (Received July 17.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, June 30, 1858.*

IN my despatch to your Lordship of the 25th May last, I reported that the Secretary of the Treasury had under his consideration an application from a house in Charleston to clear a vessel at that port for the coast of Africa, for the purpose of taking on board African emigrants, and returning with them to the United States.

Her Majesty's Consul at Charleston has already forwarded to your Lordship the able and conclusive opinion of Secretary Cobb, in which the illegality of such a Traffic, under the laws of the United States, is clearly demonstrated.

A second application has since been made, with a view to ascertaining whether vessels of the United States could lawfully embark African emigrants and convey them to a foreign country, there to be held to service or labour.

Secretary Cobb, in the accompanying letter addressed to the Collector at Charleston, under date of the 18th instant, has ruled that the proposed transaction cannot be permitted. He refuses to sanction the delivery of clearance papers to a vessel engaged to carry apprentices from the coast of Africa to Cuba, affirming, without entering upon any analysis of the law, that the Government of the United States does not recognize the distinction between the Slave Trade so termed and the Slave Trade under the name and form of apprenticed Africans.

Inclosure 1 in No. 330.

*Mr. Cobb to Mr. Colcock, May 22, 1858.*

[See Inclosure in No. 365.]

Inclosure 2 in No. 330.

*Mr. Cobb to Mr. Colcock.*

Sir,

*Treasury Department, June 18, 1858.*

THE application for the clearance of the ship "Richard Cobden," F. W. Black, master, for the coast of Africa, for the purpose of taking on board a cargo of African apprentices and of returning with the same to the Island of Cuba, has been before me for several days. The pressure of business in the office, consequent on the adjournment of Congress, has prevented an earlier reply.

The application is for the same vessel that recently applied for a clearance to bring a cargo of African emigrants to some port in the United States.

I have no hesitation in saying that the clearance should not be granted. It is true that the Acts of Congress in reference to bringing negroes from Africa into the United States are more stringent and comprehensive than the former provisions of law against the Slave Trade with other countries; a fact upon which I commented in my letter to you of the 22nd ultimo, in reply to my former application for the clearance of the "Richard

Cobden." It would seem that the present application is made upon a supposed difference between the Slave Trade, so named, and the Slave Trade under the name and form of apprenticed Africans. This Government does not recognize that distinction.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) HOWELL COBB.

No. 331.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 16, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Conflict" to the Secretary to the Admiralty,\* which has been communicated to me by that Department, reporting the circumstances under which the American vessel "Goldfinch" had been boarded by a boat from his ship in the Congo river.

I also inclose the accompanying extracts of a letter from the commander of Her Majesty's ship "Trident,"† reporting the capture of a vessel called the "Lydia Gibbs," without colours or papers, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, but which had been previously met with by British cruizers carrying the American flag.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 332.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, July 29, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying extracts of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,‡ containing some observations relative to the extent to which the American flag is used to cover the Slave Trade, and stating that the presence of an American squadron on the African coast cannot fail to prove of the highest benefit in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 333.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, August 13, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of a letter and its inclosure from Commander Aplin, of Her Majesty's ship "Hecla,"§ to the Secretary to the Admiralty, which have been communicated to me by that Department, reporting the circumstances under which the American vessel "Warren White" had been boarded by an officer from Her Majesty's ship, for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 334.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, September 1, 1858.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying extract of a letter from Commodore Wise to Rear-Admiral the Honourable Sir F. W. Grey,|| which has been

\* Class A, No. 121. † Ibid., No. 122.  
‡ Ibid., No. 67. § Ibid., No. 126. || Ibid., No. 124.

communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, containing information respecting the Slave Trade which is carried on by American vessels, or by vessels under the American flag, on the West Coast of Africa.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 335.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, September 3, 1858.*

WITH reference to the correspondence which has passed between this office and Her Majesty's Legation at Washington, respecting the capture of the schooner "*Cortes*," by Her Majesty's gun-boat "*Forward*," I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Havana,\* containing particulars with regard to the "*Cortes*" and her owners, and proof that she had no right whatever to hoist the American flag.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 336.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, September 3, 1858.*

WITH reference to the despatch from the United States' Consul-General at the Havana to his Government, of the 29th April last, of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch of the 1st June, representing that American vessels in the port of Havana are subjected to a system of espionage and annoyance by the boats belonging to British cruizers, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, extract of a despatch, with copies of its inclosures, which I have received from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba,† upon this subject; and I have to instruct you to communicate these papers to General Cass, as containing a complete refutation of the statement of the United States' Consul-General at Havana above referred to.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 337.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, September 17, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Commander Courtenay, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Conflict*,"‡ which has been communicated to me by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, stating that he had, on the 13th June, seized a schooner without any papers or colours, called the "*Angelina*," of Prospect, in the United States, fully equipped for the Slave Trade, and had sent her to St. Helena for adjudication.

No. 338.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 27.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, September 14, 1858.*

GENERAL CASS has informed me that the negroes captured on board the "*Echo*," or "*Putnam*," on the coast of Cuba, by the United States' brig "*Dolphin*," will be forwarded to Liberia on board the steam-frigate "*Niagara*," which is now being prepared for their reception.

\* No. 238.

† No. 239. †

‡ Class A, No. 127.

The American Colonization Society have undertaken the superintendence of these unfortunate people. A missionary will accompany them on the part of the Society, and an agent has been appointed for the same duty by the Federal Government.

A sum amounting to nearly 50,000 dollars (10,000*l.*) has been appropriated to their support for the period of a year, and I have reason to believe that they have experienced the most humane treatment during their detention at Charleston.

The proceedings of the Government of the United States in this matter have been strictly conformable to the laws, which require that captured slaves shall be transported beyond the limits of the Federal territory.

The crew of the slaver will be tried at Charleston, where an attempt is now being made, on some technical grounds, to obtain their liberation on bail.

No. 339.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, September 30, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, copies of a letter and its inclosure from Commander Courtenay, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Conflict,"\* which have been received from the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the American barque "John Gilpin" was boarded by an officer from the "Conflict" on the 20th July last.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY

No. 340.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, October 15, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, copies of a letter and its inclosures from Lieutenant Pike, commanding Her Majesty's steam-vessel "Antelope,"† which have been communicated to me by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the barque "Venus," sailing under American colours, was boarded on the 9th of August last by a boat from the "Antelope," for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 341.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, October 22, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith, for your information, copies of despatches from Commodore Wise,‡ which I have received from the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the American vessels "E. A. Chase," "Ellen," and "Venus," were boarded, in August last, by Her Majesty's cruisers on the West Coast of Africa.

I also inclose copies of three despatches from Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,§ reporting the capture, by Her Majesty's ship "Heron," of the barque "Governor of Paris," and the brigantine "Mary Elizabeth," fully equipped for the Slave Trade, and the escape of the American brig "Charlotte," with a cargo of slaves on board.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

\* Class A, No. 128.

† Ibid., No. 130.

‡ Ibid., Nos. 134, 135, and 136.

§ Ibid., Nos. 89, 90, and 91.

No. 342.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 28, 1858.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a note which I have received from Mr. Dallas, stating that the United States' Government do not intend to prosecute any further the claim brought forward by them on account of the seizure of the schooner "Cortes" by Her Majesty's gun-boat "Forward," off the coast of Cuba, in the month of April last.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 342.

*Mr. Dallas to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

Legation of the United States, London, October 25, 1858.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, referring to the note which was addressed to him by the Honourable Lewis Cass, under date of the 12th of May last, and to the documents which accompanied it, connected with the seizure of the schooner "Cortes," all of which have been communicated by him, in copy, has the honour to inform the Earl of Malmesbury, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that the American Government, since the receipt of his Lordship's letter to the Undersigned of the 17th June, 1858, have taken steps to obtain additional information from the United States' Consulate at Havana as to the facts connected with the national character of that vessel.

It will be recollected that, in the original report made to his Government, the Consul-General of the United States (then Mr. A. K. Blythe) stated that "the 'Cortes' certainly took from this [his] office regular papers." Such a declaration could not fail to have weight. Capable, however, of verification under oath, from records and otherwise, it was thought most proper that it should be so verified, and accordingly, with that view, the present Vice-Consul, who acted as Deputy to his predecessor, and was presumed personally cognizant of the circumstances, had his attention called to the positive statement of Mr. Blythe.

The Undersigned has the honour to forward to the Earl of Malmesbury a sealed package, with an indorsed affidavit made by Mr. Savage before Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba on the 24th ultimo. A duplicate of the paper therein referred to was transmitted to the State Department at Washington. The present one is presumed to be designed for the use of the British Government.

The evidence thus furnished by Mr. Savage explicitly, and in greater minuteness, establishes the truth of the declaration made by Mr. Blythe: "The 'Cortes' certainly took from his office regular papers."

In making, however, this communication to Mr. Cass, Mr. Savage has expressed his very strong conviction, springing from rumours and incidents, the truth of which he disclaims being able to prove, that, although the "Cortes," shortly before her capture, left the port of Havana as an American vessel, she had been previously secretly sold to "Spanish slavers" in Cuba, and "was not entitled to the papers nor flag she used." Without embarrassing themselves with a strict inquiry into the foundation of Mr. Savage's belief, the Government of the United States have preferred acting frankly upon the candid opinion avowed by their officer. The Undersigned has, therefore, been instructed that it is unnecessary to prosecute any further the claim arising out of the seizure of the "Cortes" by Her Majesty's screw gun-boat "Forward."

The Undersigned, &amp;c.

(Signed) G. M. DALLAS.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 342.

*Affidavit.*

Consulate-General of the United States, Island of Cuba.

I, THOMAS SAVAGE, Vice Consul-General of the United States of America for the Island of Cuba, residing at Havana, do solemnly and truly swear and depose as follows:—

I was Deputy Consul-General of the United States of America, residing at Havana, in the months of March and April of the current year 1858, Andrew K. Blythe, Esq., the Consul-General, being then in Havana, and performing his duties as such Consul-General. On the 19th day of March, an American schooner named "*Cortes*," of New York, arrived in the port of Havana, and on the following day (20th), her commander, Adam A. Smalley, deposited in the office of this Consulate-General the schooner's register and other papers. The register certified that the schooner was wholly owned by said Adam A. Smalley. That she was built in 1852 at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, and of 176  $\frac{4}{5}$  tons burden. Said vessel (according to her clearance documents) came from New York laden with an assorted cargo; and having experienced rough and tempestuous weather on the passage, and sustained damage in her cargo, said master noted and extended protest in this office. The ship's company consisted (as per shipping papers) of the master aforementioned, the mate, James M. Durand, no second mate, and six men, making eight persons all told. On the 27th of March, said A. A. Smalley acknowledged, before Mr. Consul-General Blythe, the execution by him of a letter of attorney in favour of said James M. Durand, authorizing him, the said Durand, to sell the schooner "*Cortes*" aforesaid; or if this could not be effected, to charter her, and generally to attend to her affairs. After this, said James M. Durand took command as master of the "*Cortes*," and the usual Consular certificate was attached to the schooner's register. Subsequently, the owner and former master (Smalley) left Havana for the United States. On the 13th of April, William Archbold and Antonio Francisco were shipped upon the schooner in this office, the first-named as mate, and the other as seaman; and the requisite certificates, bearing my own signature, as Deputy Consul-General, and the seal of this Consulate-General, were attached to the "*Cortes*" crew-list and shipping articles. On the same day, viz., 13th of April, Captain Durand called at this office for his clearance, which was given him under my own signature as Deputy Consul-General, and the official seal: he produced his custom-house despatch for Annabon, laden with 80 pipes and 60 barrels of rum, 60 bags of rice, 30 barrels of beans, 20 barrels of Spanish peas ("*garbanzos*"), 20 barrels of flour, and 15 barrels of bread.

The Consulate had information that the schooner "*Cortes*," of New York, had been chartered for a lawful voyage, and not having evidence to the contrary, or that she had ceased to be American property, dispatched her as a regularly documented American vessel, and her papers, to wit, register, crew-list, shipping articles, certificate of return of papers to master, and receipt for fees paid (the last-mentioned two documents having my signature), were delivered to James M. Durand, her commander.

The facts above stated are of my own knowledge.

In witness whereof, I hereto set my hand and official seal at Havana, this 23rd day of September, 1858.

(Signed)

THOS. SAVAGE.

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*Indorse.*

*Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General in Cuba.*

On the day of the date hereof, before the Undersigned, personally appeared Thomas Savage, United States' Vice Consul-General in Cuba, and declared on oath that this package contains a declaration under his signature and the seal of the Consulate-General of the United States for Cuba, and that the facts set forth in the said declaration are true and correct.

(Signed)

THOS. SAVAGE.

In witness whereof I hereto set my hand and official seal at Havana, this 24th day of September, 1858.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD, *Consul-General in Cuba.*

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No. 343.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

(Extract.)

*Foreign Office, November 12, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of two letters from the commander of Her Majesty's ship "*Medusa*" to the Secretary to the Admiralty,\* reporting the circumstances under which the American vessels "*Ellen*" and "*Wanderer*" had been boarded by an officer from Her Majesty's ship under his command.



No. 344.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 3, 1858.*

I FORWARD herewith a copy of a report made to Her Majesty's Government by the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the African station relative to the Slave Trade.\*

The facts therein described, being reported solely for the information of Her Majesty's Government, I do not propose to found upon them any representation to the Governments of France or of the United States; but it is due to those Governments that they should be made aware of details which prove the continued existence of Slave Traffic on the coast of Africa, and the encouragement which has been given to that Traffic by the fraudulent conduct of persons assuming foreign protection.

The abuse of a national flag, and the use of fraudulent papers, or even of legitimate papers obtained for fraudulent purposes, has been rendered so apparent, that Her Majesty's Government must needs believe that the honour of all great maritime nations is involved in putting an end to such piratical practices.

I will not permit myself to doubt that the enlightened Government of the United States can take any other than a just view of this matter, and I feel confident that a confidential communication of the facts detailed by Admiral Grey will induce the United States' Government to consider seriously how far the interests of legitimate commerce, of national honour, and of general humanity, are bound up in one comprehensive scheme for verifying the flags and papers of merchant-vessels of all countries.

Your Lordship will accordingly make known to General Cass the contents of Admiral Grey's Report, in order that features affecting very materially the question under consideration of the right of visit, may not be lost sight of in treating a subject of such intense interest.

I have instructed Lord Cowley to make a similar communication to Count Walewski.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 345.

*The Earl of Malmesbury Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 15, 1858.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship a copy of a note which I have addressed to Mr. Dallas, together with the Report from Commodore Wise therein alluded to, respecting the prostitution of the American flag on the West Coast of Africa for the purpose of slave-dealing.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 345.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Dallas.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, December 14, 1858.*

THE question of the use of the American flag for purposes connected with the Slave Trade has repeatedly led to communications between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States.

Her Majesty's Government, however deeply they may have felt the sacred obligations which have led this country to take so earnest a part in endeavouring to suppress this horrible Traffic, have equally felt that they were bound to regard the just rights of other nations, and to abstain, unless permitted by Treaty, from interfering authoritatively with suspected vessels provided with legitimate papers and hoisting corresponding national flags.

The communication which I had the honour to make to you on the 7th June last will have proved to your Government that the views above expressed have been acted upon in all sincerity; but it is with the deepest pain that I have to call your attention to facts

\* Class A, No. 142.

which disclose the advantage taken of the admission by Great Britain of the international rights of other countries.

The accompanying extracts of a letter from Commodore Wise, the senior British naval officer on the West Coast of Africa,\* detail circumstances calculated to move the most prejudiced feelings in regard to the question of the right of visit, and to urge the most decided measures for the suppression of proceedings which must be held to be equivalent to the grossest acts of piracy.

Her Majesty's Government cannot for a moment doubt that, equally with themselves, the Government of the United States will view with horror the prostitution of the American flag to such vile purposes.

They must believe that the Government of the United States will be prepared to vindicate the honour of their flag by repudiating acts calculated to lower it in the estimation of civilized nations, and by taking effectual steps to prevent its being thus debased by traffickers in human flesh.

The Government of the United States have maintained that they are able and determined to preserve the police of the seas in so far as the American flag is concerned. They have engaged, by the Treaty with this country of the 9th August, 1842, to maintain a force on the coast of Africa sufficient to control proceedings such as those which form the subject of this note. The naval officers of the two countries, when they have met on that coast, have happily been on the most friendly terms. But the force employed by the United States has manifestly been insufficient for the great object in view.

I earnestly entreat you, Sir, to call the most serious attention of your Government to these considerations.

I address you in the full conviction that the spirit in which I make this communication will not be misunderstood, and that it may be calculated to induce a kindred nation to act, not merely in accordance with Treaty engagements, but with vigour and determination, and side by side with Great Britain, in vindication of the imperative rights of humanity.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 346.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received December 20.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, December 6, 1858.*

THE Grand Jury of Columbia have returned a verdict of "no bill" in the case of the crew of the slaver "*Echo*," or "*Putnam*," indicted for piracy before the United States' Circuit Court at the above-mentioned city.

The accompanying extract from the "*National Intelligencer*" of this morning contains a brief outline of the proceedings.

The prisoners are not discharged; but I am unable to state whether the prosecution can be renewed.

Inclosure in No. 346.

*Extract from the "National Intelligencer" of December 6, 1858.*

THE "ECHO" SLAVE CASE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—Our readers have been already informed that the United States' Circuit Court met at Columbia, in South Carolina, on the 26th ultimo—Judge Wayne, of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Judge Magrath, of the District Court, being upon the bench.

From Columbia we have the following information of the proceedings in the case of the slavers who were captured on board the brig "*Echo*" (or "*Putnam*"), which case was given to the Grand Jury on the 29th ultimo:—

"The case is prosecuted on the part of the United States by the United States' District Attorney for the State of South Carolina, James Connor, Esq., of Charleston, and Messrs. Hayne and Miles, retained as special counsel by the Government of the United States. The defence is conducted by L. W. Spratt and R. de Treville, of Charleston, and Maxcy Gregg and Edmund Bellinger, of Columbia.

\* Class A, No. 145.

“The indictment is drawn against the defendants as the crew or company of the brig ‘*Putnam*,’ that being the real name of the vessel—the ‘*Echo*’ being a fictitious title, painted on a board, by which the real name of the ship was concealed.

“The ‘*Putnam*’ was built in Baltimore, and was owned first in New York and subsequently in New Orleans. Her first register was made by Jonathan S. Dobson, of New York, as ‘only owner and master.’ The ship is therein described as a brig, built at Baltimore in 1845: length, 92 feet; breadth, 21 feet 8 inches; depth, 10 feet; measurement, 187 tons. Her last register was made at New Orleans, by Edward C. Townsend, in the name of the brig ‘*Putnam*,’ and the description is precisely similar to that in the first register.

“The captain of the slaver, Edward C. Townsend, having been first landed at Key West, will be tried there. The prisoners on trial here are:—Antonio Frank, Richard Thomas Bates, Alexander Rogers, Vidal de Miranda, Joseph Gonzales Lima, Archibald Scott, John Pasco, John E. Copell, George P. Aken, William Henrys, Antonio Melanowich, and five others, Cubans. The indictment charges that they, ‘being of the ship’s company of a certain vessel, being a brig called the “*Putnam*”—the said vessel being then and there owned in the whole or in part by a citizen of the United States, to wit, one E. C. Townsend—did piratically and feloniously receive on board of the said vessel, so owned as aforesaid, certain negroes, to wit, 300 negroes, whose names are to the said jurors unknown; they, the said negroes, not being held to service or labour by the laws of either of the States or Territories of the United States.’

“The United States District Attorney to-day submitted the indictment to the action of the Grand Jury. His Honour Justice Wayne, in a concise and able manner, explained to the jury the provisions of the Act of Congress of May 15, 1820, under which the indictments would be found, if found at all. After reading and clearly explaining the several substantive offences designated by the law, and in order to assist the jury in their investigation, Judge Wayne recapitulated briefly the counts in the indictment, which are eight in number. The first charges that the prisoners did receive on the brig ‘*Putnam*’ 300 negroes, not held to service in any of the States or Territories of the United States, such brig being owned by one Edward C. Townsend. The second is a repetition of the first charge, except that the vessel is described as being owned by some person or persons unknown. The third count charges that the prisoners did confine and hold in confinement, in the brig ‘*Putnam*,’ owned by the said Townsend, the said 300 negroes. The fourth varies the charge only so far as the ownership is concerned. The fifth charges the prisoners with aiding and abetting in forcibly taking the negroes on the ship. The sixth changes the counts as to ownership. The seventh charges that the prisoners did receive and forcibly confine the negroes, or abet in forcibly confining them. And the eighth again varies the count as to the ownership of the brig.

“His Honour thought it necessary, without at all intending to enter into a consideration of the law, to make a single remark, because of the very general misunderstanding in regard to the law of piracy, and in respect to what offences are piracy, and may be made so by the statutes. He stated that it was not a fact that there was but a single crime that could constitute piracy. The act of general piracy is robbery on the high seas, committed by one who has thrown off all allegiance to all Governments, and is what the law terms the enemy of the human race, and may be punished by all nations. Then those other acts of robbery committed on the high seas are piracy which are made so under the law. And again, when a man belonging to a ship or vessel shall not commit a robbery, but shall attempt to take such vessel from the command of her master, and deliver her to another, or usurp control of her himself, the law makes it piracy, punishable as piracy is, by death, under the power delegated to Congress to guard our commerce against offences committed on the high seas. In like manner, under the same power, when a person receives, or forces, or takes on board a vessel a negro not being a slave, with the intention of selling him into slavery, the law makes him a pirate, and punishes him with death.

“The Judge repeated briefly his explanation of the province of a grand jury. They were not to try the prisoners, but simply to determine, from the facts given in evidence, whether enough appears to justify them in putting the case before a petty jury.

“The bills were then submitted, and the jury retired.”

Upon the opening of the Court on the 30th ultimo the following proceedings took place:—

“*The Court*.—Mr. District Attorney, has any application been made to you by the grand jury since the adjournment of the Court yesterday?

“*Mr. Connor*.—May it please the Court, the grand jury applied to me last night to have a copy of the oath of office taken by them sent to their room. I told them that it would be proper for them to make their application to your Honour in Court.

“ *The Court.*—Mr. Marshal, you will please to direct the foreman of the grand jury to come into Court and receive the oath, if they desire it.

“ The foreman of the jury shortly afterwards made his appearance in Court.

“ *The Court.*—The Court is informed, Mr. Foreman, that you desire to receive the oath taken by the grand jury, for your information. It was not sent to you by the District Attorney when the application was made to him, because, after the grand jury has received its case and retired, no document whatever is allowed to be sent before them without the order of the Court. The Court now gives this copy of the grand juror's oath, which you will take with you to your room.

“ At twenty-five minutes before 12 o'clock the grand jury came into Court. The roll was called by the clerk, and all the jurors answered to their names.

“ *The Court.*—Mr. Foreman, any findings the grand jury may have to present to the Court, you will please hand to the clerk.

“ The three indictments were then handed to the clerk, who read each of them, endorsed ‘ No bill.’

“ *The Court.*—Mr. District-Attorney, have you anything further to present to the grand jury?

“ *Mr. Connor.*—Not at present, your Honour. But I ask that they may be discharged until Thursday morning, when I may have further business for them.

“ The jury were accordingly discharged until Thursday morning.

“ There was evident excitement in the Court when the finding of the jury was announced.”

The “ *South Carolinian*,” in its number of the 2nd instant, has the following appropriate and just remarks on the above proceedings:—

“ We yesterday announced that the grand jury had returned no bill in the ‘ *Echo*’ case. We cannot but think that the effect, both at home and abroad, would have been better had there a true bill been returned, and the whole case been brought up for trial. We believe, as a general rule, the law should be allowed to take its course. The grave doubts entertained by many, as well among the opponents as the advocates, for a reopening of the Slave Trade, would then have been solved, as every law-abiding citizen should desire, by the proper tribunal. If it be not piracy, by whom should the legal question be decided more properly than by the Judiciary? The framers of the Constitution contemplated the probability of the legislative branch of the Government exceeding its power; and, as a check upon any such assumption, invested the Judiciary with the prerogative of defining and expounding the Constitution. The same wise provision characterizes both the Federal and our State Governments. If a right so sacred and responsible that it was deemed necessary to invest it in a body supposed above all others to be versed in the laws, and so elected as to be above the influence of popular clamour; if this right be assumed to the grand jury, who are part of the people and must be influenced by every passing passion, what becomes of this wise provision of our Constitution for preserving the consistency of our laws? In any case touching the rights of a State our State Judiciary should be called upon for its construction, and if it be against the Act of Congress, then the citizen of the State is justified in resorting to nullification. If it be a case in which the right of a State is not infringed, but which involves an excess of Constitutional power, then the Federal Judiciary is the proper expounder of the question whether such legislation on the part of Congress be constitutional.

“ Such appear to be the points involved in this ‘ *Echo*’ case. Has the Government jurisdiction over its own flag? If so, then can that jurisdiction warrant it in prohibiting our vessels from engaging in the Slave Trade, and punishing as pirates those who violate this prohibition? The points in the case do not involve any State rights issue, and are of a character that come clearly within the jurisdiction of the Federal Judiciary instead of the grand jury. If each jury decide for itself, then the uniformity and consistency of our laws would be destroyed. The same offence would be punished in one district and go unpunished in another, or punished one year and not another. Justice, instead of being weighed in equal and uniform scales, would fluctuate here and there as it might be impelled by the drifting tide of popular feeling. But even admitting that it was a case in which the grand jury was allowed the discriminating power, yet still an able discussion of the points, such as would undoubtedly have been had, would have gone far towards instructing the public mind.”

No. 347.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, December 23, 1858.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of the reply of Mr. Dallas to the note which I addressed to him on the 14th instant, respecting the abuse of the American flag on the West Coast of Africa for purposes of slave-dealing.

I am, &c,  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 347.

*Mr. Dallas to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

My Lord,

*Legation of the United States, London, December 19, 1858.*

I BEG leave to acknowledge the receipt of the note which your Lordship did me the honour to address to me on the 14th instant, accompanied by extracts of a letter from Commodore Wise, the senior British naval officer on the West Coast of Africa.

The frequency with which the American flag is counterfeited as a cover for the Traffic most impressively denounced and punished by American law, creates in the Government of the United States equal indignation and pain. They have especially endeavoured, since the 9th August, 1842, to prevent these frauds and outrages by executing a plan of action adjusted at that time by Treaty. A co-operation of naval squadrons, each armed with not less than eighty guns, and mutually independent, was then deemed adequate, by both countries, to vindicate their respective penal enactments against the Slave Trade. It was begun, and has been steadily continued. Sixteen years of trial, while certainly accomplishing much for the cause of humanity, would seem, according to the report of Commodore Wise, to close with a manifestation of the futility of the arrangement—a futility not imputable in the least degree to the neglect or lukewarmness of either of the Governments or their Agents, but solely to the audacity of guilty men, who in this, as in all other spheres, while absorbed in the lust of gain, disregard the dignity of nations, and screen iniquities, by whatever means they can easiest forge.

Without, at present, considering whether there may not be other modes of augmenting the efficiency of the plan provided by the Webster and Ashburton Treaty, I received, with the greatest respect, your Lordship's suggestion, that the force employed by the United States, and prescribed by the Treaty, has manifestly been insufficient for the great object in view. And I have hastened to transmit to Washington your Lordship's communication, in order to obtain upon that point the views of my Government.

Begging your Lordship to accept the assurance of my most distinguished consideration, I have, &c.

(Signed) G. M. DALLAS.

No. 348.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 2, 1859.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, December 20, 1858.*

YOUR Lordship will receive from Her Majesty's Consul at Charleston, by the present messenger, a despatch relative to the landing of a cargo of slaves by the American barque "*Wanderer*" in the State of Georgia.

I presume that Her Majesty's Consul at Savannah will also not fail to submit to the Foreign Office all the information which may reach him on this subject.

I asked General Cass this morning whether he was in possession of any particulars on the subject which could be imparted to Her Majesty's Government. He replied that he had no other knowledge in the matter than that which had been conveyed through the public journals. He apprehended that the report was true; and he added, on my direct inquiry, that "the Federal Government was disposed to employ all the means in its power

for the recovery and liberation of the dispersed slaves, as well as for the punishment of the criminals."

The inclosed extracts from the "Savannah Republican" of the 13th instant contain some particulars of the voyage of the "*Wanderer*," as well as of the landing of her cargo.

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Inclosure in No. 348.

*Extract from the "Savannah Republican" of December 13, 1858.*

**ALLEGED LANDING OF AFRICANS IN GEORGIA.**—The rumour which we announced in the "Republican" of Saturday relative to the landing of a cargo of Africans from the yacht "*Wanderer*" on the coast or islands near Brunswick, we regret to learn, is borne out by many circumstances, which, though not strictly legal proof, are sufficient to carry conviction to any mind that this unlawful deed has been perpetrated.

The report of the landing having come to the ears of Jos. Ganahl, Esq., District Attorney, who, being already cognizant of the fact that there were some suspicious characters in town, made further investigations, and found that three persons had arrived in the Florida boat on Wednesday last, in an apparently destitute condition, and had stopped at the City Hotel, where they had kept quiet, under a plea of being indisposed, until Saturday, when to prepare, it is supposed, for leaving in the New York steam-ship, they visited the clothing establishment of Mr. William O'Price, and spent some 200 dollars for clothing. This fact directed the suspicions of District Attorney Ganahl towards them, and he felt warranted in going before Judge Nichols, of the United States' District Court, and taking the necessary oath for their arrest. Their names, as registered at the City Hotel, are Juan Bt. Rajesta, N. A. Brown, and Miguel Aguirvi, all hailing from New Orleans. The last name was first registered as Miguel Rajres, but Rajres was afterwards scratched out by running a pen through it, and Aguirvi written after it. Upon their arrest, Mr. Brown, an American, appeared as spokesman; the other two apparently were Spaniards, and could neither speak nor understand English. Mr. Brown, upon being addressed as Captain, replied that he was not a captain, was in a strange place, where, so far from having friends, he really had no acquaintances. As soon as it was reported around that the arrest had been made, Mr. Ganahl was approached to know what bail was necessary, to which he replied that it was not aailable case, as the arrest was for piracy. They were put in jail, and we understand are provided with everything of the best.

Mr. Ganahl, assisted by United States' Marshal D. H. Stewart, is using every exertion to obtain all the evidence bearing on the case; and for this purpose he has sent to Brunswick to elicit information current about the transaction in time for the examination, which will probably be on Thursday next. We feel assured that Mr. Ganahl will do all in his power to have justice meted out; and if upon trial they are found guilty, such an example will be made of them as will put a stop to the Slave Trade, at least in this district.

A tug was dispatched to Brunswick to tow the "*Wanderer*" to Savannah, but we learn that the shipmaster, who had been left alone on board and in charge, refused to give her up; acting, it is supposed, under the advice of the citizens of that place. We hear that the Collector of the port of Darien, who has been on board the "*Wanderer*," says that she has no appearance of ever having had slaves in her.

What was done with the negroes seems to be as important a question as any of the foregoing, and rumour has been quite as busy with it. They were landed, we hear, on Jekyl Island, for which privilege it is said the negro traders paid 15,000 dollars, and that a steam-boat from this city went down and brought 150 of them past Savannah and up the river to a plantation, from whence they were scattered over the country. It is said the cargo consisted of 350, but it is difficult to believe so small a vessel could hold so many.

It will be recollected that this yacht was arrested last summer near New York, on suspicion of being fitted out for the Slave Trade; but there was not sufficient evidence to convict her, and she was released. Captain Curry, of South Carolina, was then in command, as he is now, and stated that he had bought her for a pleasure yacht, which was borne out by her elegant appointments and small tonnage.

After being released at New York, she cleared for Trinidad, and thence to St. Helena, from whence she now hails, and accounts for being without regular papers now by stating that this Government had no Consul there, and she could not obtain any. Captain Curry has papers purporting to be from the native officials at St. Helena, but they lack the necessary seals.

LANDING OF THE BARQUE "WANDERER."—Mr. Wilson submitted the following Resolution, which was considered by unanimous consent, and agreed to :

"Resolved—That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the Senate, if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interest, any information in his possession, in relation to the landing of the barque 'Wanderer,' on the coast of Georgia, with a cargo of slaves."

No. 349.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received January 10, 1859.)

(Extract.)

*Washington, December 27, 1858.*

MR. SEWARD, of New York, submitted on the 21st instant the inclosed Resolution to the Senate, prescribing an inquiry, on the part of the Judiciary Committee of that body, as to whether any amendment be necessary to the existing laws which prohibit the African Slave Trade in order to secure the effectual suppression of the same.

The Resolution introduced by the Senator for New York was opposed by Mr. Jefferson Davis, Senator for Mississippi, and fell to the ground.

Inclosure in No. 349.

*Extract from the "Daily Globe" of December 22, 1858.*

THE SLAVE TRADE.—Mr. Seward submitted the following Resolution for consideration :—

"Resolved,—That the Committee on the Judiciary inquire whether any provisions of law are necessary, by way of amendment to existing laws which prohibit the African Slave Trade, to secure the effectual suppression thereof."

IMPORTATION OF SLAVES.—Mr. Kilgore offered the following Resolution :—

"Resolved,—That the President of the United States be requested to report to this House what information has been received by him in regard to the recent importation of slaves from Africa into Georgia, and what steps, if any, have been taken to punish this violation of the laws of the United States."

Mr. Garnett objected.

No. 350.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 14, 1859.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, copies of two despatches which I have received from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner in the Mixed British and Portuguese Commission established at Loanda :\* one reporting the capture, by the United States' ship "Marion," of the American brig "Brothers," of Charleston, on suspicion of being intended to be employed in the Slave Trade; the other containing information respecting the American yacht "Wanderer," which is reported to have shipped a cargo of 300 slaves from a place called Mangue Grande, about twenty miles to the southward of the River Congo.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 351.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 14, 1859.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of letters which have been received at the Admiralty from the Commanders of Her Majesty's ships "Pluto,"

\* Class A, Nos. 96 and 100.

“Archer,” and “Medusa,”\* reporting the circumstances under which officers from the above-mentioned vessels had boarded the American vessels “Henry,” “Anglo-Saxon,” and “Hazard.”

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 352.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 21, 1859.*

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral the Honourable Sir F. Grey to the Secretary to the Admiralty,† inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between Commander Brent, of the United States' ship of war “Marion,” and Commodore Wise, relative to the capture of the brigantine “*Mary Elizabeth*,” by Her Majesty's ship “Heron;” and also inclosing copies of the reports of the Commander of the “Heron,” and of a letter from Admiral Grey to Commodore Wise, relative to the capture of this vessel.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 353.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, January 21, 1859.*

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Gabriel, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,‡ reporting the shipment of cargoes of slaves on board the American vessels “*Wanderer*,” “*Venus*,” and “*Ellen*,” and also containing some observations relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on in the Congo river under the American flag; and I have to instruct your Lordship to show Mr. Gabriel's despatch to General Cass.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 354.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 25.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, January 8, 1859.*

THE Secretary of State informed me this morning that he had been seriously concerned by the intelligence communicated to Mr. Dallas by your Lordship respecting the prosecution of the Slave Trade under the American flag. He had been hitherto inclined to believe that the reports to that effect were exaggerated. He had been incredulous; but the statements contained in Commodore Wise's letter were of a very painful and convincing character. He added, that I might assure your Lordship that the Cabinet of the United States had the subject under consideration with a view to embracing effectual means for preventing the “prostitution” of the flag of the United States in this traffic.

Mr. Seward, Senator for New York, has submitted the accompanying Resolution calling for the production of any recent correspondence between Her Majesty's Government and the United States' Legation in London, in reference to the abuse of the American flag.

Inclosure in No. 354.

*Resolution.*

ON motion by Mr. Seward:

“*Resolved*,—That the President of the United States, if in his opinion it shall not be incompatible with the public interest, be requested to communicate to the Senate any correspondence which may have passed between Her Britannic Majesty's Government and the Minister of the United States in London, of a recent date, touching the abuses of the American flag in the prosecution of the African Slave Trade on the coast of Africa, and especially touching the cruize of the ‘*Wanderer*,’ on that coast.”

\* Class A, Nos. 155, 156, and 157.

† *Ibid.*, No. 150.

‡ *Ibid.*, No. 100.



*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 31.)*

(Extract.)

Washington, January 18, 1859.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 8th instant, I have now the honour to inclose herewith a copy of the Bill introduced by Senator Seward for the more effectual suppression of that Traffic.

The projected measure authorizes the President to engage and employ a flotilla of steam-vessels to cruize against the slave-traders; increases the head money for the capture of the negroes; provides additional powers and inducements for the arrest of the imported slave; imposes restrictions and precautions in reference to the fitting out and transfer of vessels destined for the coast of Africa; limits the trade in that quarter to designated localities under Consular inspection; and appropriates 1,000,000 dollars towards the execution of the Act.

The newspapers constantly abound in instances of slave cargoes successfully run upon the Cuban coast. I select an example from the "New York Herald" of the 17th instant.

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Inclosure 1 in No. 355.

*A Bill in addition to the Acts which prohibit Slave Trade.*

I. BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in addition to the armed vessels now employed in the service of the United States, the President be, and is hereby, authorized to engage any number not exceeding ten steam-vessels, to be approved by the Secretary of the Navy, and to cause them to be manned, armed, and equipped, and to be employed to cruize on any of the coasts of the United States, or territories thereof, of the coast of Cuba, or of the coast of Africa, or elsewhere, when he may judge attempts may be made to carry on the Slave Trade by citizens or residents of the United States, in contravention of the Acts of Congress prohibiting the same: and the said steam-vessels shall be deemed, for the time being, to belong to the navy, and shall be commanded by officers of the navy, and shall be employed with the same powers, and for the same duties, and subject to the same directions, as the armed vessels of the navy, under the Act entitled "An Act in addition to the Acts prohibiting the Slave Trade," approved March third, eighteen hundred and nineteen; and the officers and men employed therein shall be entitled to have, in like cases, the same prize moneys and bounties as are by law allowed to the officers and men belonging to the navy, and employed under the Act last mentioned.

II. And be it further enacted, That the bounty authorized by the third section of the said Act to be paid in certain cases shall, instead of twenty-five dollars, be five hundred dollars, payable on the same conditions and in the same manner mentioned in the last Act.

III. And be it further enacted, That when any citizen or other person shall lodge information with the Attorney for a District of or in any State, or Territory, as the case may be, that any negro, mulatto, or person of colour has been imported therein, contrary to the provisions of the law in such cases made and provided, or having been imported into any other district shall have been brought into such district, it shall be the duty of the said Attorney forthwith to sue out and obtain from a Judge of the Circuit Court, a warrant authorizing and directing the Marshal to find out, and bring before the Judge or Commissioner, such negro, mulatto, or other person of colour, wherever he may be found, together with the person in whose custody he may be, or who may have detained him under any claim or pretence whatever; and such Judge or Commissioner shall ascertain and examine the matter summarily upon the return of said warrant; and if it shall be ascertained by him that such negro, mulatto, or other person of colour, has been brought in contrary to the true intent and meaning of the Acts in such cases made and provided, then such Judge or Commissioner shall direct the Marshal of the said district to take such negroes, mulattoes, or other persons of colour, into his custody for safe keeping, subject to the order of the President of the United States; and the informer or informers who shall have lodged the information shall be entitled to receive, over and above the portion of the penalties accruing to him or them by the provisions of the Acts in such cases made and provided, a bounty of two hundred and fifty dollars for each and every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, who shall have been delivered into the custody of the Marshal; and the

Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, the aforesaid bounty, upon the certificate of the Clerk of the Court for the district where proceedings may have been had, with the seal of office thereto annexed, stating the number of negroes, mulattoes, or persons so delivered; and it shall further be the duty of the said Judge or Commissioner, on any probable cause, to commit into custody the person in whose custody such negroes, mulattoes, or other persons, were found, for trial according to law: Provided, That any person aggrieved may appeal to the Circuit Court from such order directing the delivery of such negroes, mulattoes, or other persons, on executing a bond to the United States in the penalty of three thousand dollars for each of such negroes, mulattoes, or other persons of colour, with sureties to be approved by the Judge or Commissioner, conditioned to restore them to the Marshal, with all costs, if such appeal shall be determined against him; and such appeal shall be tried by a jury, if either party shall so require.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for any Legislature of any State to pass laws prohibiting the foreign or African Slave Trade within its limits, and to declare and enjoin such penalties, forfeitures, and punishments therefor as it shall deem expedient: Provided, that such laws shall be consistent with the Constitution of the United States, and do not in any way defeat, modify, or counteract the laws of the United States.

V. And be it further enacted, That no ship or vessel shall hereafter sail or depart from any port or place within the United States, for any place or port on the coast of Africa, until after her master or owner shall have given notice of his intended voyage to the District Attorney of the United States for that district; and the said District Attorney, upon receiving such notice, shall cause due search and examination to be made of such vessel, to be continued until her actual departure, to ascertain whether she is designed, directly or indirectly, to be engaged in the African Slave Trade. Every vessel cleared, or fitted out, or departing, or attempting to depart from the United States, in violation of this Act, shall be forfeited, with her equipments, stores, and appurtenances, to the United States; and every ship or vessel departing from the United States to any port or place without a clearance shall be forfeited to the United States; nor shall any vessel belonging to any citizen or resident of the United States on any pretext depart from any foreign port or country to the coast of Africa, when such vessel shall have been sold after her departure from the United States, without first returning to the United States and being duly registered and licensed anew in some port of the United States.

VI. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall have power to designate such ports and places on the coast of Africa as ships or vessels belonging in whole or in part to citizens and residents of the United States may visit for the purposes of trade and other communication, and such vessels shall visit such ports and places and no others (except in case of danger or distress); and at any such port or place there shall be a Consul of the United States, and it shall be his right and duty to go on board any such vessel coming there, and inspect the same, and if he shall find her engaged or prepared, or intended to be engaged in the Slave Trade, or if her commander shall neglect or refuse to submit his vessel to such inspection, then it shall be his duty to seize such vessel as engaged in contraband trade, and such vessel, her officers and crew, shall thenceforth lose and forfeit all claim to any protection by the Government of the United States.

VII. And be it further enacted, That all laws heretofore passed which are inconsistent with this Act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one million dollars, or so much thereof as is necessary, is hereby appropriated to secure the execution of this Act.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 355.

*Extract from the "New York Herald" of January 17, 1859.*

THE Slave Trade continues to thrive as usual. The brig "*Ellen*" recently landed a cargo of about 900 Africans, of whom only 55 were captured on board one of Murty's fishing smacks. The vessel was abandoned aground in the Canal de los Burcos, where three dead bodies of her slave cargo were found, and four or five more of them were saved, but the rest reached the plantations.

Another cargo of Africans, upwards of 1,000 in number, has been recently safely landed in the district of San Juan de los Remedios, to the joy of the sugar-growers and enrichment of the slavers and their associates.

Mr. Crawford, British Consul-General here, must feel quite ugly about such goings on. Probably the feelings of the Spanish authorities have been consoled for such formidable breaches of the Treaty with England.

No. 356.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 7.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, January 24, 1859.*

GENERAL CASS has informed me that it has been decided to send two steam-vessels at once to the coast of Africa to prevent the manœuvres of the slave-traders, who elude the control of Her Majesty's cruisers by adopting the flag of the United States. He added that he would join Her Majesty's Government in addressing the most energetic remonstrances to the Cabinet of Madrid against the perpetuation of the Traffic, by the connivance and corruption of the Spanish officials in Cuba; and he intimated that the United States' Government would be disposed to co-operate with that of Great Britain in some measure of repression around the coasts of that island.

General Cass expressed his astonishment that Her Majesty's Government had not been able to control the action of that of Spain more effectually, in virtue of the Treaties subsisting between the two countries for the suppression of the Slave Trade; and I think it probable that some expression of this sentiment may be found in a reply to your Lordship's note of the 14th ultimo, to Mr. Dallas, which is in course of preparation.

No. 357.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 11, 1859.*

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 24th ultimo, reporting what passed at a conversation which you had with General Cass on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade, and I have to instruct your Lordship to express to the American Minister the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government has learnt that it has been decided by the United States' Government to send steam-vessels to the African coast for the purpose of frustrating the manœuvres of the slave-traders who elude the control of Her Majesty's cruisers by adopting the flag of the United States.

I have, however, to observe that in order that these vessels should be of practical use, and with the view to reap the full benefit which may, doubtless, be expected to arise from the presence on the African coast of a few active and efficient steamers under the American flag, some arrangement ought to be made for provisioning and coaling these vessels at convenient places on the coast. At present three-fourths of the time of American cruisers, which are supposed to be employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade, is occupied either in provisioning and refitting at the Western Islands, or in the passage to and fro between those islands and their cruising-ground, and the consequence is that it rarely happens that more than one, or at the most two, United States' cruisers are on the African coast at the same time, and until lately there have been occasions when no United States' ship of war has been seen on the coast for months together.

With regard to what you state respecting the willingness expressed by General Cass to join Her Majesty's Government in remonstrating energetically with the Cabinet of Madrid against the perpetuation of the Slave Trade in Cuba, and his intimation that the United States' Government would be disposed to co-operate with Great Britain in some measures of repression around the coasts of that island, I have to instruct your Lordship to acquaint General Cass that Her Majesty's Government would be glad to receive any suggestions which the United States' Government may have to offer on these points.

I am, &c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No 358.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 15, 1859.*

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying extracts of a letter from Commodore Wise to Rear-Admiral the Honourable Sir F. Grey,\* containing intelligence respecting American vessels which are suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 359.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, February 28, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th ultimo, I inclose, for your Lordship's information, copies of a correspondence which has passed between the United States' Minister at this Court and myself, on the subject of the visit of the American brig "Anglo-Saxon," by an officer from Her Majesty's ship "Archer," off the African Coast, in the month of October last.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 359.

*Mr. Dallas to the Earl of Malmesbury.*

My Lord,

*Legation of the United States, London, February 20, 1859.*

AGREEABLY to instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request your Lordship's consideration of the accompanying papers, being copies of authenticated documents in the Department of State at Washington.

These papers contain a short but precise account of the manner in which the American brig "Anglo-Saxon," engaged in ordinary trade, and liable to no suspicion whatever of illicit traffic, was, on her voyage homewards from the coast of Africa, as late as the month of October last, overhauled, brought-to by the firing of a gun, arrested, visited, examined, and detained, for one hour and thirty-eight minutes, by Her Majesty's war-steamer "Archer," sailing with the United States' flag at the peak.

It is not supposed that this proceeding of the Commander of the "Archer" was authorized, or will be approved; but, in the absence of any circumstance of extenuation or explanation, your Lordship will, it is confidently believed, readily acquiesce in the justice of the President's desire that it may undergo inquiry by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with a view to the adoption of such measures by Her Majesty's Government as will prevent the occurrence of similar acts hereafter.

I renew, &amp;c.

(Signed) G. M. DALLAS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 359.

*Mr. Austin to General Cass.*

Sir,

*Custom-House, Boston, Collector's Office, January 3, 1859.*

IN answer to your favour of the 30th ultimo, I have to say that the Captain of the "Anglo-Saxon" is not in the city; but I have caused the affidavit of the supercargo and mate to be taken. I trust these will be satisfactory; please find them inclosed.

Very respectfully, &amp;c.

(Signed) ARTHUR W. AUSTIN, *Collector.*

\* Class A, No. 161.

Inclosure 3 in No. 359.

*Affidavit.**Boston, January 3, 1859.*

I, CHARLES S. LINCOLN, being duly sworn, do testify as follows:—I was born in Eastport, Maine; am now 22 years old; sailed from Boston, 3rd April, 1858, as clerk of the brig "Anglo-Saxon," 200 tons burthen, Matthew Bartlett and Charles H. Marsden, owners, on a voyage to Cape de Verde Islands and West Coast of Africa; reached the coast of Africa last of June. In August, September, and October, lost the captain, mate, and four men by death, and one left on the Coast. October 8th, shipped six coloured men by direction of the owners; I was made supercargo on the death of Captain Marsden.

Left Gambia for home, viâ Cape de Verde Island, October 14th. October 26th, between Goree and Cape de Verde Islands, latitude 14° 5', longitude 18° 33', at five minutes past twelve, saw sail on her lee-bow, American colour flying at her peak; she fired a gun for us to heave-to; our colours were up before she fired. We heave-to; the vessel that fired the gun came up, and proved to be the British steamer "Archer." The Lieutenant came on board; demanded our papers. The papers were shown him by the Captain, George J. Gray; then he asked me what cargo we had on board, where we were from, where we were bound. I told him he could find all that by looking at the papers. The British Lieutenant wanted to look into the hold; I refused to open the hatches. When he left, he told us not to fill away till he saw the American ensign at his peak.

We were detained an hour and thirty-eight minutes.

(Signed)

CHARLES S. LINCOLN.

Suffolk, ss.

Then, the above-named Charles S. Lincoln appeared before me, and made oath to the above declaration by him subscribed.

*January 3, 1859.*

(Signed)

JOSEPH C. LOVEJOY, *Justice of the Peace.*

I, Daniel McNiell, mate of the brig "Anglo-Saxon," do affirm and corroborate the above statement made by the supercargo, Charles S. Lincoln.

(Signed)

DANIEL Mc NIEL,  
*First Mate of brig "Anglo-Saxon."*

Sworn before me, January 3, 1859.

(Signed)

JOSEPH C. LOVEJOY, *Justice of the Peace.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 359.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Mr. Dallas.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, February 26, 1859.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, stating that you have been instructed by your Government to request the consideration of Her Majesty's Government to papers which you inclose, and which you allege "contain a short but precise account of the manner in which the American brig 'Anglo-Saxon,' engaged in ordinary trade, and liable to no suspicion whatever of illicit Traffic, was, on her voyage homewards from the coast of Africa, as late as the month of October last, overhauled, brought-to by the firing of a gun, arrested, visited, examined, and detained for one hour and thirty-eight minutes, by Her Majesty's war-steamer 'Archer,' sailing with the United States' flag at the peak."

Her Majesty's Government have already received from the captain of the "Archer," an account which gives a very different version of this matter, but which I cannot doubt that the United States' Government, equally with that of Her Majesty, will hold to be entitled to credit.

A copy of the captain's report was forwarded on the 14th ultimo to Lord Napier,\* who will probably have communicated it to General Cass; but I inclose a copy to you, with the request that you will make it known to your Government, who will thereby see that the suspicious conduct and appearance of the "Anglo-Saxon," which vessel is stated to have evinced no intention of hoisting any colours until a blank gun was fired to enforce it, led to the proceedings detailed by Captain Anderson.

I am, &amp;c.

(Signed)

MALMESBURY.

No. 360.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received February 28.)*

My Lord,

Washington, February 15, 1859.

THE telegraphic reports from the South, this morning, intimate that the Grand Jury at Savannah has found a true bill against Captain Corrie, of the slave-vessel "*Wanderer*," as well as against three of his crew. The parties in question are committed to jail.

From the same source we also learn that true bills have been returned against Messrs. Silvas and Mares, consignees, and Cassineras, captain of the barque "*Angelita*," on the charge of fitting out that vessel for the Slave Trade.

Mr. Corrie has been expelled from the Yacht Club of New York, and the name of the vessel has been erased from the list of that body.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) NAPIER

No. 361.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 4, 1859.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from the commander of Her Majesty's ship "*Pluto*," which has been communicated to me by the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which the American barque "*Panchita*" was boarded by a boat from Her Majesty's ship under his command.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

No. 362.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, March 17, 1859.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copy of a letter from Commander Courtenay, of Her Majesty's ship "*Conflict*," reporting his having boarded the American barque "*J. W. Reid*," off the entrance of the Congo river.†

No. 363.

*The Earl of Malmesbury to Lord Napier.*

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 18, 1859.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th December last, I inclose, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from General Cass, which has been communicated to me by Mr. Dallas, containing the reply of the United States' Government to the note which I addressed, on the 14th December last, to the American Minister at this Court, on the subject of the prostitution of the American flag on the West Coast of Africa for the purpose of slave-dealing.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) MALMESBURY.

Inclosure in No. 363.

*General Cass to Mr. Dallas.*

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, February 23, 1859.

YOUR letters of December 16th and 24th last past, and the note of Lord Malmesbury to you dated the 14th of the same month, and which was transmitted in your letter of

\* Class A, No. 164.

† Ibid., No. 167

the 14th, and also your acknowledgment of the receipt of the letter, have been some time before the Department; but the difficulty of procuring the necessary information upon some of the subjects referred to has prevented me from communicating to you the views of the Government at an earlier day.

In your note to Lord Malmesbury, of December 19th, you have done justice to the efforts of the United States for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and also to the regret which the abuse of the American flag, for the purposes of that Traffic, has occasioned to the Government. The extent to which this reprehensible practice is carried, I have not the means of ascertaining, nor how many of the vessels named in the list transmitted by Commodore Wise to the British Admiralty were actually engaged in the Slave Trade, or were *bonâ fide* American. As I remarked heretofore to Lord Napier, there is just ground to believe that nearly, if not quite all, the vessels bearing the American flag and engaged in this trade belong to foreigners; and Commodore Wise, in his account of the capture of the "*Rufus Soulé*," discloses the measures which may sometimes be resorted to, in order to enable a vessel to maintain a national character to which she has ceased to have any just claim. That officer also states, that under the American "ensign" alone is the Slave Trade now conducted. It is difficult to reconcile this opinion with some of the facts he communicates, or at any rate with the charge that the flag of the United States is an immunity for the slave-traders, for he reports the capture of 33 vessels which either did not bear the American flag or were not protected by it from seizure. And of 23 other vessels which escaped capture, it does not appear that more than eleven of them were ascertained to have sailed under the flag of this country. But however this may be, the United States are not subject to censure under any circumstances, unless they are justly chargeable with neglect of duty in not adopting such measures as their position fairly requires of them. But they fear no such accusation. They have made the Slave Trade a capital offence, and they assign no inconsiderable portion of their navy to the duty of its suppression. The great slave-mart of the world is the Island of Cuba, and if this were closed this Traffic would at once be annihilated. The authority of Spain is firmly established in that island, and her military force there is quite sufficient to insure the accomplishment of any measure of domestic policy decreed and seriously desired by the Spanish Government. It is known that Spain has, by a Convention with Great Britain, and for a pecuniary consideration, placed herself under obligation to prevent the introduction of slaves into her American possessions. If this stipulation were fulfilled, the desired object would be peaceably attained, and all those dangerous questions avoided, which are sure to present themselves whenever the freedom of the seas is interfered with, whatever motive may be assigned for the proceeding. The United States have engaged, by the Ashburton Treaty, to "unite with Great Britain in all becoming representations and remonstrances with any and all Powers within whose dominions such (slave) markets are allowed to exist; and that they will urge upon all such Powers the propriety and duty of closing such markets effectually at once and for ever." Lord Napier inquired, a few days since, whether this Government were now willing to give effect to this stipulation by making the necessary representations and remonstrances to the Government of Spain. I assured his Lordship that there would be no hesitation in performing this duty, whenever there may be reason to believe that the expression of their views by the United States would produce any favourable effect upon the action of the Spanish Government; but that the relations of Spain and Great Britain, and especially the Conventional stipulations between them, would give to the intervention of the latter much more probability of success than could be anticipated from the representation of the United States. In fact, it is difficult to believe that under existing circumstances the Spanish Government would resist the firm remonstrances of the Government of Great Britain.

I see no reason why the flag of the United States should be the only "ensign" of national sovereignty prostituted by slave-dealers, and certainly, as I have already observed, there is none which can be justly urged as a reproach against this Government. The position taken by the United States respecting the immunity of their vessels upon the ocean is precisely that assumed by France, and both nations equally deny the claim of visitation, and equally object to its exercise. A Slave Trade adventurer, carrying the French colours, is no more subject to examination by a British cruizer than if he hoisted the colours of the United States, and in neither case is it the assumption of the flag which confers the immunity, but the legal character of the vessel, agreeably to the principle stated in my letter to Lord Napier of April 10, 1858, and which was laid down by Mr. Webster, by order of the President of the United States, in a letter to Mr. Everett, their Minister in London, dated March 28, 1843.

Lord Malmesbury, while referring to the report of Commodore Wise, depicting the horrors of the Slave Trade, considers the circumstances of so flagrant a nature as to be

“calculated to move the most prejudiced feelings in regard to the question of the right of visit, and to urge the most decided measures for the suppression of proceedings which must be held to be equivalent to the grossest acts of piracy.”

As to the suffering and loss of life referred to, they are everywhere known and condemned. The horrors of the passage can scarcely be described in more powerful language than has already been employed in making them known to the world. But the question of effectual repression presents grave practical difficulties, and in their consideration it is not alone the nature of the traffic, but there are other important circumstances also which must be taken into view,

I do not understand precisely the bearing of the remark of Lord Malmesbury, that these revolting cruelties are calculated to move the most prejudiced feelings in regard to the question of the right of visit, &c. There is no right of visit, except, as Lord Stowell said, from the belligerent claim. The forcible visitation of vessels upon the ocean is prohibited by the law of nations in time of peace, and this exemption from foreign jurisdiction is now recognized by Great Britain, and it is believed by all other commercial Powers. Even if the exercise of a right of visit were essential to the suppression of the Slave Trade, whether such a right should be conceded by one nation to its co-States of the world, is a question for its own consideration, involving very serious consequences, but which is little likely to encounter any prejudiced feelings in favour of the Slave Trade in its solution, nor to be influenced by them; but there is a just reason to believe that the value of a right of visitation, as a means of putting an end to this Traffic, has been greatly overrated. The object of such visitation is to ascertain the national character of a vessel. If found to belong to the same nation as the cruizer making the visit, and violating its laws, she may be seized. If belonging to another nation, she must be released. In whatever employment she may be engaged, unless, indeed, she has become a pirate, in which case she is liable to be captured by the naval force of any civilized Power. If the United States maintained that, by carrying their flag at her mast-head, any vessel became thereby entitled to the immunity which belongs to American vessels, they might well be reproached with assuming a position which would go far towards shielding crimes upon the ocean from punishment; but they advance no such pretension, while they concede that, if in the honest examination of a vessel sailing under American colours, but accompanied by strongly-marked suspicious circumstances, a mistake is made, and she is found to be entitled to the flag she bears, but no injury is committed, and the conduct of the boarding party is irreproachable, no Government would be likely to make a case thus exceptional in its character a subject of serious reclamation.

The security against the abuse of any such power is to be found in the responsibility of the nation whose naval force commits an unlawful act, and in the right of the injured party to adopt such measures of redress as it may consider due to the nature of the injury. But to reverse the relation of the parties, and to confer upon the aggressor the right to decide when he may exercise this armed and summary jurisdiction, is improvidently to prostrate one of the barriers of national defence wisely constructed by the public law of the world. Whatever guards might be provided by Conventional stipulations against the arbitrary exercise of such an authority, from its very nature, and the circumstances attending its exercise, strength and weakness being brought into contact, and upon every part of the ocean, “these detentions,” in the words of Mr. Webster, “necessarily lead to serious inconvenience and injury. Besides the pecuniary loss they occasion,” he adds, with truth, “they too frequently irritate individuals, cause warm blood, and produce nothing but ill effects on the amicable relations existing between the countries.” This Government chooses to reserve this power of judgment to itself, disposed at the same time to deal fairly with such mistakes as may honestly occur, but not disposed to convert trespasses into legal acts by previous Conventional arrangements.

Lord Malmesbury expresses the conviction of the British Government that, equally with themselves, the Government of the United States will view with horror the prostitution of the American flag to the purposes of the Slave Trade. This admission is but an act of justice; though certainly there is nothing in the principles or position we have maintained, which called for its formal communication. This country was the first among the nations of the world to make the prosecution of the Slave Trade by its citizens a capital offence, and their repugnance to it has ever since been constant and constantly avowed.

Certainly the Government, though it is satisfied that the extent to which the employment of *bond fide* American vessels in this Trade has been carried has been greatly overrated, has seen the abuse of its flag with as much aversion as the crime has inspired in Great Britain, and it is well persuaded that the British Government has viewed with as much aversion as the Government of this country the similar abuse which has heretofore



taken place of the British flag. Both of these nations, all civilized nations indeed, are under serious obligations to provide for the suppression of crimes within their jurisdiction, whether upon the land or the water. But even the sternest legislation, and the most vigorous administration, cannot always prevent the commission of crimes, nor ensure their punishment, and a nation fully meets its responsibility when it fairly adapts its measures to the circumstances in which it is placed, and of these it must necessarily be the judge.

Lord Malmesbury assures you the British Government believe, "that the Government of the United States will be prepared to vindicate the honour of its flag by repudiating acts calculated to lower it in the estimation of civilized nations, and by taking effectual steps to prevent its being abused by traffickers in human flesh."

His Lordship will not find himself in error in the expectation that all the duties of the United States connected with this grave subject will be fulfilled, nor in the hope he expresses that the spirit of his communication will not be misunderstood. But while giving these assurances, it is due to the earnest representation he addresses on the part of his Government to the Government of the United States to assure him also that there is nothing either in the course of this Government, nor in the abuse of its flag, which calls for this emphatic reference to its duties, and this expression of the hope that these will be performed. There are high moral considerations which have induced the United States to prohibit their citizens from engaging in this employment. Violations of their laws upon this subject no doubt occasionally take place, as violations of the criminal laws of all countries occur from time to time. I presume it will not be denied that this is a misfortune to which Great Britain is also sometimes exposed, both upon land and water. But the vindication of her honour requires no act of repudiation on her part when such breaches of her laws take place: nor does the abuse of the flag of the United States for any unworthy purpose make this Government responsible, unless, indeed, it fail to perform its proper duties. This it has not done: it has repudiated these acts in the most solemn manner, by declaring them criminal and punishable with death, and it has not the least apprehension that its honour will suffer in the estimation of civilized nations in consequence of the unlawful prosecution of the Slave Trade by its citizens, or by foreigners seeking the protection of its flag. The measures of repression which it has adopted, and which it is prepared to render still more efficient, offer satisfactory proof of its sincerity to all who are disposed to regard its position in a spirit of justice. And if it declines to confer upon another nation the police over its vessels upon the ocean, it is from no sympathy with this commerce, nor from any desire that its citizens should pursue it, but from its conviction that the freedom of the seas is essential to the best interests of the world, and that its maintenance is incompatible with any such concession. And I have reason to believe that the Government of France, in its general views of this subject, agrees substantially with the Government of the United States.

With a view to stimulate the action of this Government, Lord Malmesbury observes, that "the United States have maintained that they are able and determined to preserve the police of the seas in so far as the American flag is concerned, and that by the Treaty of the 9th August, 1842, with Great Britain, they have engaged to maintain a force on the coast of Africa to control proceedings such as those which form the subject of this note."

I do not know to what particular declaration, made on the part of this country regarding the police of its vessels upon the ocean, Lord Malmesbury refers in the above quotation. But I have no hesitation in admitting that it expresses the views of the United States, and it is presumed that it expresses also the views of all other commercial Powers.

By the Law of Nations, every independent State possesses the exclusive right of police over all persons within its jurisdiction, whether upon its soil or in its vessels upon the ocean. And this national prerogative can only be interfered with in cases where acts of piracy are committed, which, by the public law of the world, are cognizable by any Power seizing the vessel, thus excluded from the common rights of the ocean. Lord Malmesbury, indeed, remarks, that these Slave Trade proceedings "must be held to be equivalent to the grossest acts of piracy." But, reprehensible as is that Traffic, it is not piracy, nor is it equivalent to piracy in any of the legal consequences which result from it. It is an offence created by national, not by international, law, and is punishable only by the country to which the offenders are responsible. The United States have, indeed, by statutory provision, declared it piracy, but that is a domestic regulation, merely adopted for the purposes of its own criminal justice, but which gives no jurisdiction to any foreign Power.

The police over their own vessels being a right inherent in all independent States, each of them is responsible to the public opinion of the world for its faithful preservation, as it is responsible for the execution of any other duty. The measures it will adopt must depend upon its own judgment; and whether these are efficient or inefficient, no other

nation has a right of interfering. And the same principles are applicable to territorial jurisdiction. Good laws it is the duty of every Government to provide, and also to make suitable provision for their just administration. But because offenders sometimes escape, nations are not therefore disposed to admit any participation in the execution of these laws, even though such a measure might ensure their more faithful execution.

Commodore Wise looks to a Conventional arrangement between Great Britain and the United States, by which British cruizers may be permitted to capture American vessels, with a view to their surrender to the American naval forces, as the most effectual means of suppressing the Slave Trade. I believe the object may be certainly attained without the adoption of this professional suggestion; if not, I should have no hope of its accomplishment. The surrender of a right of police over its vessels to the armed cruizers of a great maritime Power, is a measure which this country would sternly reject under all circumstances, even at the hazard of being accused of refusing to co-operate in the effort to annihilate this employment. Such a system of foreign interference might, indeed, sometimes be usefully exercised upon the ocean in the detection and punishment of crimes; but the additional security thus gained would be dearly purchased by the sacrifice of an important element of national independence, and in its practical operation an immense navy could exercise no such authority over the commercial marine of other Powers, without the commission of aggressions which could not fail to lead to dangerous consequences. Nor would such a proposition be rendered more acceptable by the suggestion made by Commodore Wise, that the trans-Atlantic slave-dealers will make vigorous efforts during the coming season; "and if they extend their enterprises to the Bights of Benin and Biafra, farewell to the remunerative and rapidly-increasing trade which is now carried on on that coast." Whether the object be commercial or philanthropic, the United States would still be opposed to the exercise of a foreign jurisdiction over their vessels.

The report of Commodore Wise, which contains this expression of apprehension, contains also various statements respecting the operations upon the coast of Africa; but the information in the possession of this Department is not sufficient to enable me to form a judgment of their correctness. In some important particulars they are at variance with the reports received from officers of our African squadron, and I shall therefore request the Secretary of the Navy to furnish me with copies of so much of them as relate to these points, and shall transmit them to you, that you may invite the attention of the Earl of Malmesbury to the subject, with a view to the adoption of such measures as will remove all fear of difficulties hereafter.

There is one statement, however, of Commodore Wise, which calls for immediate consideration. That officer says that, "last year slavers were (in the majority of cases) captured through their captains foregoing the protection of the American flag, but now American slavers are arriving and sailing with almost as much impunity as if they were engaged in legal traffic." That vessels employed in this Traffic too often escape, there can be no doubt, but that they pursue it with as little risk as is here indicated, is an obvious error. Such a denunciation is irreconcilable with the presence of a squadron of repression upon that coast, unless, indeed, its duties are flagrantly neglected, and its officers regardless of what they owe to themselves and their country. It would be a work of supererogation to defend them from such an accusation. Their best defence is to be found in the glory of that navy which they have so successfully laboured to build up, and in the high estimation in which they are held by their countrymen.

As to the charge of "foregoing the protection of the American flag," I presume Commodore Wise refers to the practice of which I complained in my letter to Lord Napier of April 10, 1858, by which the masters of vessels furnished with American papers were induced, by the representations of the British boarding officers, to throw their papers overboard. Why they should do so, without being influenced by threats, or by the hope of escaping impending punishment, it is difficult, impossible indeed, to conceive.

If a vessel has regular American papers she is beyond the reach of a British cruizer, which, in the language of Commodore Wise, "has no legal right to molest them [her] in any way." What advantage, then, does she gain by the loss of her papers, whose destruction at once subjects her to capture, and to the disposition of the British naval authorities? If taken by an American cruizer, the persons found on board such vessel engaged in the Slave Trade are liable to the punishment of death; while, if they voluntarily subjected themselves, by the destruction of their papers, to be arrested by the British naval authorities, it is understood to have been the practice to land them upon the nearest part of the coast, where they were left free; while the captors were entitled to prize money for the vessel and her living cargo.

The nature of the inducement held out for this surrender, heretofore referred to in my letter to Lord Napier of April last, is indicated by the answer of Commodore Wise to the

inquiry of Lieutenant Davidson, of the American navy, who had asked the Commodore whether, in the event of his meeting an American slaver, under American colours, and bearing genuine papers, he would use means to induce the captain to throw his colours and papers overboard. To which he replied, "Well, I might strain a point, and tell the captain the 'Dale' was just near at hand." The "Dale" is an American vessel-of-war, and capture by her would subject the offenders to the extreme punishment provided by the law of the United States. By such proceeding it is not American protection which is foregone, to use the expression of Commodore Wise, but American justice which is defeated. Commodore Wise seems to be under the impression that this reprehensible practice is now abandoned. The information received from our African squadron justifies a different conclusion, and, indeed, the circumstances attending the capture of the "*Rufus Soulé*" in October last, as reported to the Navy Department, lead to the opinion that some such means are yet resorted to, and with the same protection of the criminals against punishment; for the crew of that vessel were landed upon the coast, and suffered to depart. The facts connected with the capture and burning of the vessel are very differently represented by the American and British officers. The proceedings were attended with circumstances so very reprehensible, if not clearly justified by the situation of the vessel, that I desire, when the reports from the Navy Department reach you, that you request an immediate investigation of the transaction, and the adoption of such measures of redress and prevention as the state of the case may call for.

The tenour of some of the remarks in the despatch of Lord Malmesbury render it proper to advert, somewhat in detail, to the views he has presented. That course became necessary, in order to redeem the United States from any misapprehension under which his Lordship might labour, that their indisposition to admit any other nation to a participation in the exercise of criminal jurisdiction, either preventive or punitive, over their commerce or navigation, originated in any sympathy with this unlawful occupation. Far other motives have influenced their course.

The question of suppression, under existing circumstances, presents, as I have already said, serious practical difficulties, arising out of dangers to the freedom of the seas, and out of the extraordinary exertions to enterprizing men well acquainted with the business, and which are called into action by the enormous profits which a successful adventure is sure to bring.

The British Government has been already informed that this Government entertains serious doubts of the efficiency of the African squadrons which are employed in the suppression of the Slave Trade in accomplishing this work. They cannot close the long line of coast where it is most active; and the success which has attended these efforts of prevention bears a very unequal proportion to the expenditure of life and treasure they have cost. But the President is unwilling, notwithstanding these doubts, to withhold the co-operation of the United States from this work of repression, and the serious appeal of the British Government is entitled to respectful attention.

The President is prepared to adopt all proper measures within the sphere of his constitutional authority, to prevent American vessels or citizens from being engaged in the Slave Trade. But while giving this assurance, I am also instructed by the President to express the confident hope that the British Government may be able to secure, at an early day, the complete fulfilment of its Treaty stipulations on this subject with the Government of Spain. I cannot doubt that such a fulfilment would go very far towards accomplishing the purpose which both nations have in view, of closing the Traffic in African slaves.

There are measures, too, which the British Government can adopt in Africa, and which, it is believed, will materially contribute towards the accomplishment of the object. In my letter to Lord Napier of April 10, 1858, I made the same suggestion, and subsequent information has confirmed the opinion there expressed. In the hope that it may meet the attention of Lord Malmesbury, and may lead to a favourable consideration of the proposition, I transfer to this letter what I then said upon the subject:—

"But other means have been suggested by persons intimately acquainted with the slave coast, and who have watched the Slave Trade operations, and which offer encouraging prospects of success, if adopted. These suggestions relate to the extension and improvement of the free colonial establishments in that region, so as to create barriers at the most exposed points, and also to the construction of small military posts, or block-houses, garrisoned from the acclimated population at or near the places to which the course of the Trade has been directed, and where the means of interchange may be found."

So far as respects the action of the United States, no additional legislation is deemed necessary. By the Treaty of Ghent in 1814, and by the Ashburton Treaty of 1842,

their condemnation of the Slave Trade is formally expressed, and its prosecution has been made a statutory offence, punishable with death. They have maintained upon the Coast of Africa a larger force, it is believed, in proportion to the extent of their navy, than any other Power, and this disparity will be still further increased as soon as the additional measures directed by the President are carried into effect. These measures look to the employment of armed steamers upon the African Coast and in the Cuban waters, a description of force far better adapted than sailing vessels to the pursuit and capture of the rapid craft which carry on this trade. The number of vessels which may be detached upon this duty will depend upon the state of the public service, but it is hoped that two at least may be ordered to Africa, and three or more to Cuba. The Ashburton Treaty requires that each of the Powers, parties to it, shall maintain a squadron upon the coast of Africa carrying at least eighty guns. But if by mutual consent, the number of guns were reduced, and small steam-vessels substituted for sailing-vessels, the service would be much more efficiently performed, and the expense not increased.

You are instructed to read this despatch to Lord Malmesbury, and, should he desire it, you may leave a copy with him.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) LEW. CASS.

No. 364.

*Lord Napier to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 22.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, March 6, 1859.*

IN conformity with the sense of your Lordship's instruction of the 11th ultimo, I sought an interview yesterday with General Cass, and imparted to him your Lordship's opinion that, for the purpose of maintaining a sustained and regular blockade of the African coast, it would be desirable that the United States' steam-vessels to be employed hereafter against the Slave Trade, should have some coaling and victualling stations on the continent, for otherwise they would be constantly withdrawn, as had heretofore been the case, from their cruising-ground, to be provisioned and refitted elsewhere.

The Secretary of State remarked, that this was a professional question on which he was not competent to pronounce a judgment.

I availed myself of the same occasion to state to General Cass that, as he had expressed his desire to co-operate with Her Majesty's Government in making remonstrances to the Cabinet of Madrid against the continuance of slave-importation in Cuba, and also to join in some measure of maritime repression round the coasts of that island, it would be gratifying to Her Majesty's Government to receive some suggestions on these points from the Government of the United States.

General Cass, being called away suddenly to attend the President, left in my hands, for perusal, his note to Mr. Dallas of the 23rd of February, to which I need not further allude, and a communication under date of January 25, to Count de Sartiges, commenting upon the French Memorandum, at that time transmitted to the Government of the United States, and subsequently forwarded to me in your Lordship's despatch of the 14th of January last.

Before taking leave of the Secretary of State, I read to him your Lordship's instruction of the 11th February, by which I am desired strongly to urge upon the Government of the United States, the expediency of formally recognizing the right of the naval officer to compel a merchant vessel by force, if necessary, to hoist the colours of the nation to which she claims to belong; explaining, at the same time, that the assent of the French Government to this principle seemed to be conditional on that of the United States.

General Cass replied very much as he had done before—that he felt great difficulty in acknowledging *à priori* the right of a vessel of war to fire into a merchant-vessel for the purpose of enforcing the exhibition of a flag; but still, in his own opinion—for he had no official resolution to deliver—an American vessel which should refuse to display her colours, would be, in a manner, “denationalized;” and that the Government of the United States would not be hasty to resent the measures of restraint or compulsion which might be adopted by a foreign officer in ascertaining her nationality. Indeed, he thought that previous intimation might be made to sea-going vessels, that in case of a stubborn refusal to show a flag, they would not be entitled to the protection of their Government.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Charleston.*

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No. 365.

*Consul Bunch to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(*Received June 21.*)

(Extract.)

*Charleston, May 31, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship two copies of a letter which has been addressed by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States to the Collector of this port, on the subject of a proposal to bring "free emigrants" from the coast of Africa to a port of the United States. The facts of the case are, briefly, as follows:—

Messrs. E. Lafitte & Co., a mercantile house established in the city, proposed to send the American ship "Richard Cobden," of 750 tons burthen, W. F. Black, master, from this port to the coast of Africa, on a voyage such as I have described above. Before doing so, however, they applied to the Collector to be informed whether he would permit the vessel to clear at the Custom-house after such an avowal of the object of the voyage, and as that functionary appeared to entertain some doubt as to the matter, he submitted the question to the Secretary of the Treasury on the 20th of April last, who replied on the 22nd instant, in the letter now submitted to your Lordship. Mr. Cobb proves most satisfactorily that the proposed voyage would be contrary to the laws of the United States, and instructs the Collector not to clear the vessel.

It may be as well to add that no idea is entertained by any one that the "Richard Cobden" would ever have returned to any "port in the United States," had her voyage been consummated. The "free emigrants" would, beyond a doubt, have found their way to a Cuban plantation, had the "Richard Cobden" not been intercepted by one of Her Majesty's cruisers.

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Inclosure in No. 365.

*Mr. Cobb to Mr. Colcock.*

Sir,

*Treasury Department, May 22, 1858.*

IT appears from your letter of 20th April, 1858, that application has been made to you by E. Lafitte and Co., merchants, of Charleston, South Carolina, "to clear the American ship 'Richard Cobden,' W. F. Black, master, burthen 750 $\frac{31}{5}$  tons, for the coast of Africa, for the purpose of taking on board African emigrants, in accordance with the United States Passenger Laws, and returning with the same to a port in the United States."

You ask the opinion of the Department upon the propriety of your granting or refusing the application.

The question is an important one, and I have delayed an answer to your letter until I could give the subject a proper examination.

The form in which this application is presented, involves the question in some embarrassment. The object of the applicants must be either to import Africans, to be disposed of as slaves, or to be bound to labour or service, or else to bring them into the country like other emigrants, to be entitled, on their arrival, to all the rights and privileges of freemen. In either of the two first-named contingencies, the object would be so clearly and manifestly against the laws of the United States, as to leave no room for doubt or hesitation. I deem it proper, however, to call your attention to the provisions of those laws, as they indicate very clearly the general policy of the Government on the subject of African importation.

Prior to the 1st January, 1808, the time fixed by the Constitution when Congress would be authorized to prohibit such importation, the Acts of 2nd March, 1794, and

10th May, 1800, were passed. These laws indicate the strong opposition felt at that time to the African Slave Trade. The subsequent Act of 2nd March, 1807 and 20th April, 1818, as well as the Acts of 3rd March, 1819, and 15th May, 1820, show not only the promptness with which the power was exercised by Congress of prohibiting this trade to the United States, but they also bear evidence of the stern purpose of enforcing their provisions by severe penalties and large expenditures. The legislation of the slave-holding States, prior to 1808, exhibits the fact that the first steps taken for its suppression were inaugurated by them.

There is no subject upon which the statute books of our country afford more conclusive evidence than the general opposition everywhere felt to the continuance of the African Slave Trade.

By reference to the Acts of 1794 and 1800 against the Slave Trade generally, it will be seen that their operation was confined to slaves *eo nomine*. The first section of the Act of 1794 provides, "That no citizen or citizens of the United States, or foreigner, or any other person coming into or residing within the same, shall, for himself or any other person whatsoever, either as master, factor, or owner, build, fit, equip, load, or otherwise prepare any ship or vessel, within any port or place of the said United States, nor shall cause any ship or vessel to sail from any port or place within the same, for the purpose of carrying on any Trade or Traffic in Slaves to any foreign country; or for the purpose of procuring, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, the inhabitants of such kingdom, place, or country, to be transported to any foreign country, port, or place whatever, to be sold or disposed of, as slaves: and if any ship or vessel shall be so fitted out, as aforesaid, for the said purposes, or shall be caused to sail, so as aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, her tackle, furniture, apparel, and other appurtenances, shall be forfeited to the United States; and shall be liable to be seized, prosecuted, and condemned in any of the Circuit Courts, or District Court for the district where the said ship or vessel may be found and seized."

The language of the Act of 1800 is the same in this respect. Both contemplate, in general terms, the prevention of the Trade in Slaves. When, however, in 1807, and subsequent thereto, Congress undertook to prevent the importation of slaves into the United States, the language of the law was made more stringent and comprehensive. The first section of the Act of 1807 provides, "That from and after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, it shall not be lawful to import or bring into the United States or the territories thereof, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country, any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, with intent to hold, sell, or dispose, of such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, as a slave, or to be held to service or labour."

This law seeks not only to prevent the introduction into the United States of slaves from Africa, but any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, whether introduced as slaves, or to be held to service or labour. Whether or not the wisdom of our fathers foresaw at that early day that efforts would be made, under a pretended apprentice system, to renew the Slave Trade under another name, I cannot undertake to say; but the language of the law which they have left to us on the statute book, leaves no doubt of the fact that they intended to provide, in the most unequivocal manner, against the increase of that class of population by immigration from Africa. No one could then have contemplated an object for which African emigrants would be brought to this country, which is not clearly guarded against and forbidden by the law to which I am now referring. It is only necessary to add that subsequent Acts on the subject contain the same language. This view of the subject is strengthened by reference to the provisions of the Act of 28th February, 1803. The first section of that Act is as follows: "That from and after the first day of April next, no master or captain of any ship or vessel, or any other person, shall import or bring, or cause to be imported or brought, any negro, mulatto, or other person of colour, not being a native, citizen, or registered seaman of the United States, or seamen natives of countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope, into any port or place of the United States, which port or place shall be situated in any State which by law has prohibited, or shall prohibit, the admission or importation of such negro, mulatto, or other person of colour; and if any captain or master aforesaid, or any other person, shall import or bring, or cause to be imported or brought, into any of the ports or places aforesaid, any of the persons whose admission or importation is prohibited as aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of one thousand dollars for each and every negro, mulatto, or other person of colour, aforesaid, brought or imported as aforesaid, to be sued and recovered by action of debt, in any Court in the United States—one-half thereof to the use of the United States, the other half to pay any person or persons prosecuting for the penalty; and in any action instituted for the recovery of the penalty aforesaid, the person or persons sued may be held to special

bail : Provided always, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the admission of Indians.”

It will be seen that Congress, by this Act, undertook to co-operate with those States which, by State legislation, had interposed to prevent the importation of negroes into this country. At that time the constitutional prohibition to which I have before referred, restrained Congress from the exercise of the absolute power of prohibiting such importation. The States, however, being under no such restraint, had in several instances adopted measures of their own : and the Act of 1803 shows the promptness of the General Government in exercising whatever power it possessed in furtherance of the object. The language of this Act is important in another view. It will be observed that its object is to prevent the importation into the United States of “any negro, mulatto, or other person of colour, not being a native, a citizen, or registered seaman of the United States, or seamen natives of countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope.” It is not confined to slaves or negroes bound to labour, but contemplates the exclusion, in the broadest terms, of all such persons, without regard to the character in which they may be brought. It excludes free persons as well as slaves and persons bound to labour or service. The only limitation in the Act is, that it is confined to such persons as are prevented by the laws of any of the States from being imported into such States.

At that time there existed laws of some of the States, not only prohibiting the introduction of negro slaves, but also free negroes. Indeed the policy of the slave-holding States has always been opposed to the increase of its free negro population ; and it is proper here to remark, that at the present time that policy is more earnestly sustained in those States than at any previous period of their history. After this reference to the laws on the subject, it is hardly necessary to repeat, that if the application of Messrs. Lafitte and Co. contemplates the introduction of negroes into the United States from Africa, either in the character of slaves or as apprentices bound to service or labour, it is clearly in violation of both the letter and spirit of the law, and cannot be granted.

The form of the application made by Messrs. Lafitte and Co. would seem to contemplate the introduction into the United States of negroes from Africa, entitled, on their arrival, to all the rights and privileges of freemen. The proposition, upon its face, is so absurd that it is hardly worthy of serious refutation. Messrs. Lafitte and Co. ask us to believe that their vessel, fitted out in the port of Charleston, South Carolina, is going upon a voyage to Africa, to bring to some port in the United States a cargo of free negroes. The port to which the vessel expects to return is not indicated. It cannot be the one from which it sails, nor any other port in the State of South Carolina, as the introduction of free negroes into that State is wisely prohibited by stringent laws and heavy penalties. It cannot be the port of any other slave-holding State, as similar laws in each of those States alike forbid it. The reason for such laws is so manifest, that I do not feel called upon either to produce the evidence of their existence, or to justify the policy which led to their adoption. It is sufficient to know that the public mind of that section of the Union is not more cordially agreed upon any one subject than upon the propriety and necessity of prohibiting, as far as possible, an increase of the free negro population ; and hence the laws to which I refer, prohibiting their importation from any place.

Can it be that Messrs. Lafitte and Co. propose to return, with their cargo of free negroes, to a port in some of the non-slaveholding States ? I am not aware of a single State where these new-comers would receive a tolerant, much less a cordial, welcome ; whilst, by stringent laws and constitutional provisions, some of them have provided for their unconditional exclusion.

Looking beyond the legislation which has been had on the subject by the General Government, and both the slaveholding and non-slaveholding States, I may be permitted to refer, in this connection, to the various, repeated and earnest efforts which have been made in every section of the Union, to provide for the removal from our midst of this most unfortunate class. However varied the motives which have induced these efforts with different persons, in different sections of the country, they all exhibit an earnest desire to diminish rather than increase the free negro population. This public opinion, thus manifested in every form, is familiar to every one, and it would be doing great injustice to the intelligence of Messrs. Lafitte and Co., to suppose that they alone were ignorant of it. Where, then, do they propose to land their cargo of free negroes ? What is the motive which induces the enterprise ? It cannot be the profits of the voyage. There are no African emigrants seeking a passage to this country ; and if there were, they have no means of remunerating Messrs. Lafitte and Co. for bringing them. The motive cannot be mere philanthropy, for it would confer no benefit upon these negroes to bring them to our shores, where, if permitted to land at all, it would only be to occupy our pest-houses, hospitals, and prisons. To believe, under the circumstances, that there is a *bonâ fide*

purpose, on the part of Messrs. Lafitte and Co., to bring African emigrants to this country to enjoy the rights and privileges of freemen, would require an amount of credulity that would justly subject the person so believing to the charge of mental imbecility. The conviction is irresistible, that the object of the proposed enterprise is to bring these "African emigrants" into the country, with the view either of making slaves of them, or of holding them to service or labour. If so, it is an attempt to evade the laws of the country on the subject of African importation, to which I have called your attention.

Ordinarily, it would be an unsafe rule for a public officer to act upon the suspicion of a purpose on the part of another to violate the laws of the country, but in this case it is put so clearly beyond the reach of doubt, that I think that you not only can, but that you are in duty bound to act upon the presumption, that it is the intention of Messrs. Lafitte and Co. to evade the laws of the United States, and you should accordingly refuse their vessel the clearance asked for.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) HOWELL COBB,  
Secretary to the Treasury.

No. 366.

*Consul Bunch to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 13.)*

My Lord,

*New York, August 28, 1858.*

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship from this city (whither I have come in conformity with my usual leave of absence to escape the yellow fever which is raging in Charleston), that a slaver has been captured off the coast of Cuba, with 318 slaves on board. It appears that, on the 21st instant, the United States' schooner "Dolphin," Lieutenant John N. Maffitt, commanding, left Sagua la Grande for Key West; that she soon saw a sail a-head, standing on the same course as herself, and gaining on her rapidly; that at 4 P.M. this sail being ahead, hauled on the wind, as if trying to get out of the "Dolphin's" course, which caused her to be regarded as a suspicious craft; that the "Dolphin" tacked in pursuit, hoisting English colours, and firing a blank cartridge, which not being answered, another was fired at half-past 4 P.M., and at 5 a shot across the bows, which had the effect of producing an American flag at the peak; that she continued her course, trying to escape, when a well-directed shot from the "Dolphin" took effect in her fore-rigging, when she hove-to and lowered her colours.

A boat was sent on board, when she proved to be a brig from the African coast, with 318 negroes on board. Her name had, apparently, been originally the "Putnam," but this was painted over and the name "Echo" remained. The prize was placed in charge of Lieutenant Bradford and Second Lieutenant Carpenter, of the "Dolphin," who were ordered to carry her into Charleston, at which port she arrived yesterday, and was placed in quarantine.

Sufficient time has not elapsed to enable the United States' authorities at Charleston to take steps for ascertaining the owners, or punishing the crew of this vessel, I cannot, therefore, furnish your Lordship with any further details at present, but I trust soon to report fully in the matter. By the law of the United States the negroes should be restored to Africa at the expense of the United States' Government.

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

No. 367.

*Consul Bunch to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received September 27.)*

(Extract.)

*New York, September 14, 1858.*

WITH reference to the subject of my despatch of the 28th ultimo, being the capture, by the United States' schooner "Dolphin," of an American slaver on the Coast of Cuba, and her arrival at Charleston, I have now the honour to state that the negroes were at once taken charge of by the United States' Marshal in the name of the Federal Government. They were supplied with clothing and other necessaries, and deposited in Fort Sumpter, a new fort of considerable size at the entrance of the harbour of Charleston, detached from the main land, and in every respect adapted to be a receptacle for these unfortunate creatures.



Considerable excitement prevailed at Charleston on the arrival of this, the first slaving-vessel which has entered the port during the last sixty years, and there were not wanting those who displayed an anxiety to hand the Africans over to the custody of the State of South Carolina, in which case they would, in all probability, have soon found their way to the cotton and rice plantations. Fortunately, however, the officers of the United States were on the alert, and the law, which is too clear to admit of a doubtful interpretation, has thus far been carried out.

Meanwhile the President of the United States had ordered the United States' steam-frigate "Niagara" to Charleston for the purpose of conveying the Africans to Liberia, and had concluded an arrangement with the Directors of the American Colonization Society, under whose auspices they will be provided for, at the expense of the United States, for one year after their arrival at that settlement. The "Niagara" sailed from this port on Sunday afternoon, but has not yet reached Charleston.

So soon as the Africans shall be safely re-embarked I shall have the honour of reporting the fact to your Lordship.

The captain and crew of the slaver are in custody, and will, probably, be tried at Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, in November next, before a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

No. 368.

*Consul Bunch to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received October 11.)

My Lord,

*New York, September 25, 1858.*

WITH reference to the subject of my despatches of the 28th ultimo and the 14th instant, I have now the honour to report that the United States' steam-frigate "Niagara" sailed from the port of Charleston on Tuesday, the 21st instant, for Liberia, having on board 271 of the Africans who were lately rescued from slavery by the United States' schooner "Dolphin," off the coast of Cuba.

The number brought into Charleston having been 306, your Lordship will perceive that 35 died during their stay at that port.

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

No. 369.

*Consul Bunch to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received January 3, 1859.)

(Extract.)

*Charleston, December 13, 1858.*

IN my despatch of the 14th of September last, I did myself the honour to state to your Lordship, with reference to the case of the American slaver "Echo," sent into this port by the United States' schooner "Dolphin," that the crew of that vessel would probably be tried at Columbia, the capital of this State, during the month of November, on the charge of piracy.

Although, owing to circumstances which I shall proceed to explain, no trial has as yet taken place, I beg leave to communicate herewith to your Lordship all that has been done in this very remarkable question.

The term of the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of South Carolina was opened at Columbia on the 29th ultimo. It was presided over by Judge Wayne, one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Mr. Magrath, the Judge of the United States' Court for this district. A grand jury having been impanelled, the case of the prisoners, sixteen in number, all of whom had been actually taken on board of the schooner "Echo," was submitted to them on the 29th November by Mr. James Conner, the District Attorney of the United States, and the necessary witnesses were in attendance. Mr. Conner, of course, appeared for the prosecution, and was supported by Mr. Hayne, the State District Attorney (not a Federal officer), who was specially retained by the Government of the United States to assist their own officer. The prisoners were defended by Messrs. Spratt, Gregg, De Treville, and Bellinger.

The indictment was framed upon the Act of Congress of May 15, 1820, which makes it piracy to "receive or force on board a vessel a negro, not being a slave, with the intention of carrying him into slavery." The punishment for this offence is death.

The grand jury retired with the indictment, and summoned before them, as I am

informed by the District Attorney, some of the witnesses whom he had provided; and, after a very cursory and imperfect examination of them, returned into Court on the 30th of November, with the finding "No bill" endorsed upon the indictment. The District Attorney then moved that the prisoners should be remanded to await the finding of another grand jury, at the next session of the Court. This was opposed by the counsel for the defence, who requested that they might be brought up on a writ of *habeas corpus*, and discharged, as there was no charge against them. The Judges granted the former part of this motion, and on Saturday, the 4th December, the prisoners were brought up before the Court. A grand argument ensued, principally directed to impugning and defending the constitutionality of the law of the United States under which the indictment was laid; and on the 9th of December the Judges decided in favour of the law as it stands, and remanded the prisoners and witnesses to the custody of the United States' Marshal until April next.

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## No. 370.

*Consul Bunch to the Earl of Malmesbury.*—(Received January 31.)

(Extract.)

*Charleston, January 12, 1859.*

IN the month of October last, there arrived at this port a ketch called the "*Brothers*," which had been captured on the coast of Africa by the United States' sloop of war "*Marion*," under suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade. She had an American register on board, and hoisted the American flag, and was fully equipped for the Slave Trade, there being found on board a large quantity of plank, evidently meant for a slave-deck; 10,000 gallons of water, a large quantity of rice and of beans, 2 coppers for cooking, 24 pairs of shackles, 300 or 400 spoons, several dozen tin pans, 20 deck scrapers, and 8,000 dollars in gold doubloons. The American senior naval officer on the coast therefore placed her in charge of Lieutenant Stone, of the "*Marion*," and a prize crew, by whom she was brought into this port.

The vessel, although preserving her American register and flag, had really been sold in the Havana, but she had previously been owned in Charleston by a Mr. Street, and had long been engaged in the West Indian trade. The United States' Consul in the Havana appears not to have caused the register to be returned to the Custom-house here, in consequence of which neglect Mr. Street has been rendered liable to punishment, as the vessel still stands in his name.

The captain and crew of the "*Brothers*" were indicted yesterday in the United States' District Court, before a Grand Jury. The presiding Judge, Mr. Magrath, charged the jury forcibly and clearly, but without effect, as they, almost without inquiry, found that there was "no Bill" on the indictments.

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UNITED STATES. (Consular)—Galveston.

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No. 371.

*Consul Lynn to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received May 4.)*

My Lord,

*Galveston, April 6, 1858.*

I CONSIDER it my duty to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of an Act passed by the 7th Legislature of the State of Texas, intituled "An Act to permit free persons, of African descent, to select their own master and become slaves."

I do not wish to impugn the justice of the Courts of this State; but I cannot forbear to express my belief, that should a free person of African descent be secretly introduced to this State, the proceedings according to this Act, so far as they relate to the volition of the negro, would be wholly illusive, and the forced enslavement of a free person would be legalized where it has hitherto been a penal offence.

I wish more particularly to direct your Lordship's attention to this Act, as it is intended to apply to all persons of African descent, irrespective of their nationality.

I have transmitted to his Excellency Lord Napier a copy of this Act, together with a despatch similar to this which I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR T. LYNN.

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Inclosure in No. 371.

*An Act to permit Free Persons of African descent to select their own Master and become Slaves.*

I. BE it enacted, by the Legislature of the State of Texas:—That it shall be lawful for any free person, of African descent, now in this State, or who may hereafter be within its own limits, being over the age of 14 years, to choose his or her master, and become a slave, upon the terms and conditions hereinafter named: Provided, said slave shall not be subject to forced sale for any debt incurred by, or judgment rendered against, the chosen master prior to the period of enslavement.

II. Whenever any free person of African descent, as aforesaid, desires to choose a master, such person may file a petition in the District Court of the county in which he or she resides, setting forth his or her desire to choose an owner, and stating the name of such person as he or she desires to select as an owner; which petition shall be signed by the petitioner in the presence of at least two subscribing witnesses; and, thereupon, the Clerk of the Court in which such petition shall have been filed shall give notice thereof by posting such notice at the Court-house door for four weeks, and said Clerk shall also issue a summons to the petitioner, and the person designated in the petition as the proposed master, citing them to appear before said Court at the term thereof next succeeding the expiration of the publication of said notice, and shall also issue a subpoena for the subscribing witnesses to the petition, which summons and subpoena shall be executed in the same manner as like process in other cases.

III. Upon the appearance in open Court of both the petitioners and the person designated in the petition as the desired master, the Court shall proceed to examine each party separately, as well as the subscribing witnesses to the petition, and such other persons as the Court may see fit; and at such examination the District Attorney shall be present, and see that a full examination is had, and he shall represent the petitioner in such examination; and if upon such examination the Court shall be satisfied that there is no fraud or collusion between the parties, that the proposed master is a person of good

repute, and that there is no good reason to the contrary, the said Court shall have power, by decree entered on the records of the Court, to grant the prayer of the petitioner, and from the entry of such decree, the property in said person of African descent, as a slave, shall vest in the person so chosen as master; and his rights and liabilities, and the condition of the petitioner, shall, in all respects, be the same as though such petitioner had been born a slave to the master so chosen.

IV. When any such petitioner, as hereinbefore mentioned, shall be a female, having children under 14 years of age, and shall in her petition ask that such children shall become the slaves of the same person chosen by her as her master; if the Court shall, after examination, as in this Act before provided, grant the prayer of the petitioner as to herself, it shall also decree such children in like manner to be the slaves of the same owner: Provided, that where the mother of such children of African descent, under the age of 14 years, shall be deceased, in that case the next friend of such children shall have authority in their behalf to proceed in the same manner to the selection of a master for them, as the mother might do under the provisions of this Act.

V. The District Attorney shall be entitled to a fee of ten dollars for each examination attended by him under the provisions of this Act, which shall be taxed as costs in the proceedings, and all the costs of the proceedings shall be paid by the master to whom the slave may be decreed; and after a petition shall have been filed under the provisions of this Act, and during the pendency of the proceedings under the same, no proceedings shall be had against the petitioners under any law of prohibiting free persons of colour from remaining in, or coming to, this State.

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UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*New Orleans.*

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No. 372.

*Consul Mure to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received April 9.)*

(Extract.)

*New Orleans, March 18, 1858.*

IN reference to the despatch of the 5th current,\* which I had the honour of addressing your Lordship regarding the measure pending before this Legislature of the State, for the importation of free blacks to be apprenticed as labourers for a period of fifteen years, I now beg to inform your Lordship that the Bill was rejected in the Senate, though only by a majority of two votes.

A paragraph has been going the round of the newspapers, to the effect that a depôt has been opened for the importation and sale of African slaves on Pearl River, in the adjoining State of Mississippi. I have made inquiries on the subject, and can find no foundation for such a rumour.

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\* Class B, presented 1858, No. 523

UNITED STATES. (Consular)—Savannah.

No. 373.

Consul Molyneux to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received January 31.)

My Lord,

Savannah, January 12, 1859.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship a case of African slave-trading which has recently occurred within the district of this Consulate.

The yacht "*Wanderer*," of about 235 tons, sailed from Charleston, South Carolina, in July last, on pretence of a pleasure excursion. She proceeded to the coast of Africa, where she remained a few weeks, taking on board about 400 negroes, 80 of whom died on her return voyage; the remainder were covertly landed on Jekyl Island, in St. Andrew's Sound, and subsequently removed to plantations up the Savannah river; a steamer belonging to this port being privately chartered for the purpose.

Suspicion having been excited, the "*Wanderer*" was seized, brought into this port, and libelled. The captain and crew had previously absconded. The United States' Marshal, however, succeeded in arresting, on their arrival in this port, three of the latter, who, after a lengthened examination, have been committed to jail to take their trial at the April term of the United States' District Court, and all the parties believed to be implicated in this daring and discreditable violation of the law have been bailed, in sums varying from 2,000 to 10,000 dollars, to appear at the same Court.

I think it will be difficult to convict the seamen, not from any defect in the evidence, but owing to a feeling in the community that the law is too severe.

A printed copy of the libel in the Admiralty Court against the "*Wanderer*," cut from a newspaper, I inclose. The steamer which brought the negroes cannot be libelled, as it is clear she violated no law, so imperfectly is the statute worded.

For a more detailed account of the voyage of the "*Wanderer*," I beg to refer your Lordship to the inclosed newspaper slips, in which, also, will be seen a portion of the evidence against the seamen.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) E. MOLYNEUX.

Inclosure in No. 373.

*Extracts from American Newspapers relative to the "Wanderer."*

No. 374.

Consul Molyneux to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord,

Savannah, February 14, 1859.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th January, I have to acquaint your Lordship that the United States' District Attorney brought in bills of indictment in the Admiralty Court now in session, charging Captain Corrie, of the yacht "*Wanderer*," and three of the crew, Aguirra, Registe, and Brown, with piracy, under the laws of Congress prohibiting the Slave Trade.

The grand jury, after a long investigation, brought in true bills in each case, and the trials will take place at the April term of the United States' District Court.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) E. MOLYNEUX.

No. 375.

*Consul Molyneux to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 9.)*

My Lord,

*Savannah, February 15, 1859.*

I BEG to acquaint your Lordship that the grand jury yesterday returned true bills against Charles Mores and Joachim Silvas, a commercial house in the city, and J. Jeramina Cassaneras, all Spaniards, charging them with fitting out the Spanish barque "*Angelita*" as a slaver; and they are all bound over to take their trials at the April term of the United States' District Court.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) E. MOLYNEUX.

No. 376.

*Consul Molyneux to the Earl of Malmesbury.—(Received March 22.)*

My Lord,

*Savannah, March 1, 1859.*

WITH reference to my despatch of the 12th January, I have to acquaint your Lordship that the yacht "*Wanderer*" was condemned at the present term of the Admiralty Court, for being engaged in the Slave Trade, and is advertised by the United States' Marshal for sale at public auction on the 12th March.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) E. MOLYNEUX.