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CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

BRITISH MINISTERS AND AGENTS

IN

FOREIGN COUNTRIES,

AND WITH

FOREIGN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND,

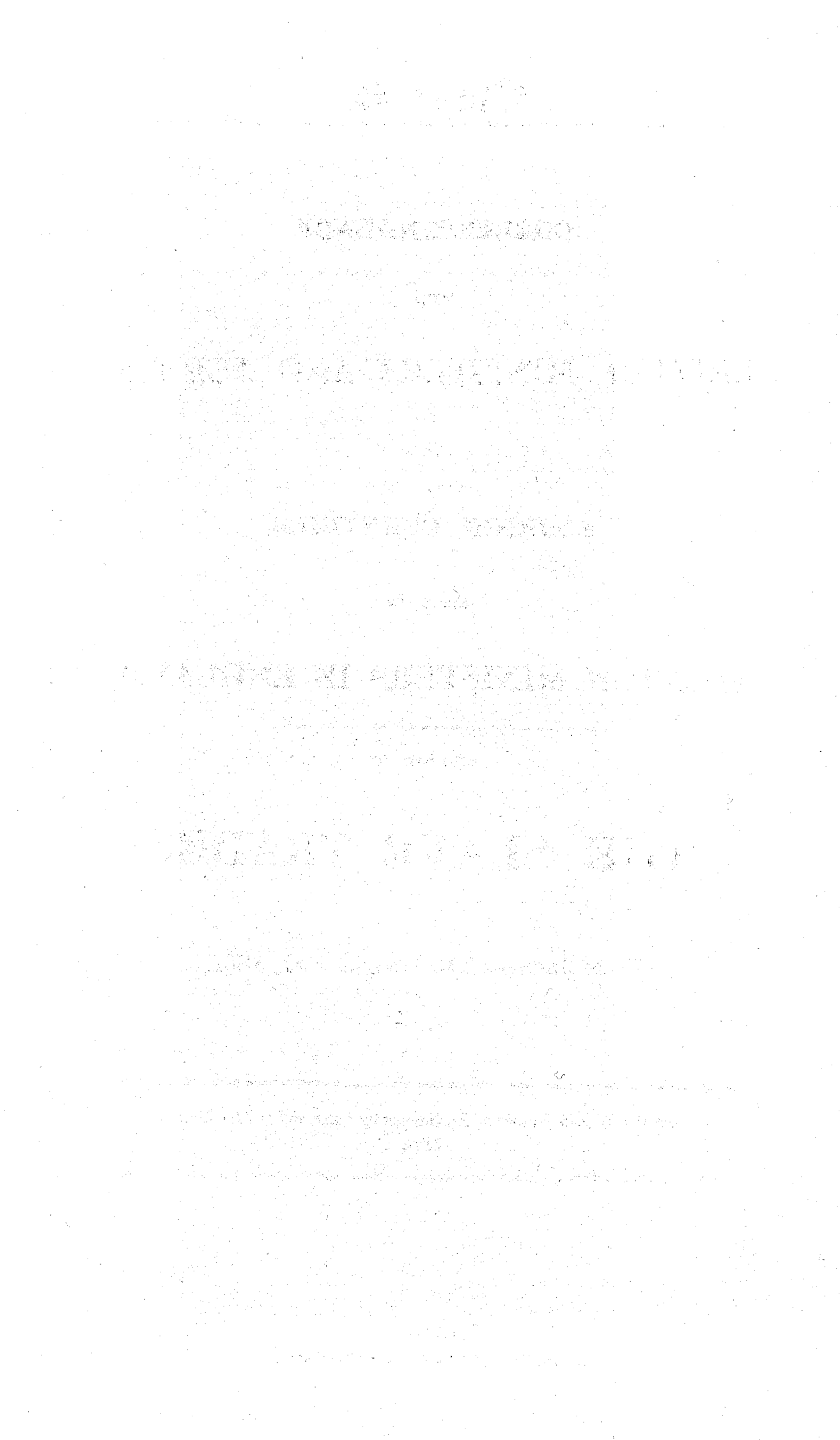
RELATING TO

THE SLAVE TRADE.

From January 1 to December 31, 1861.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
1862.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.



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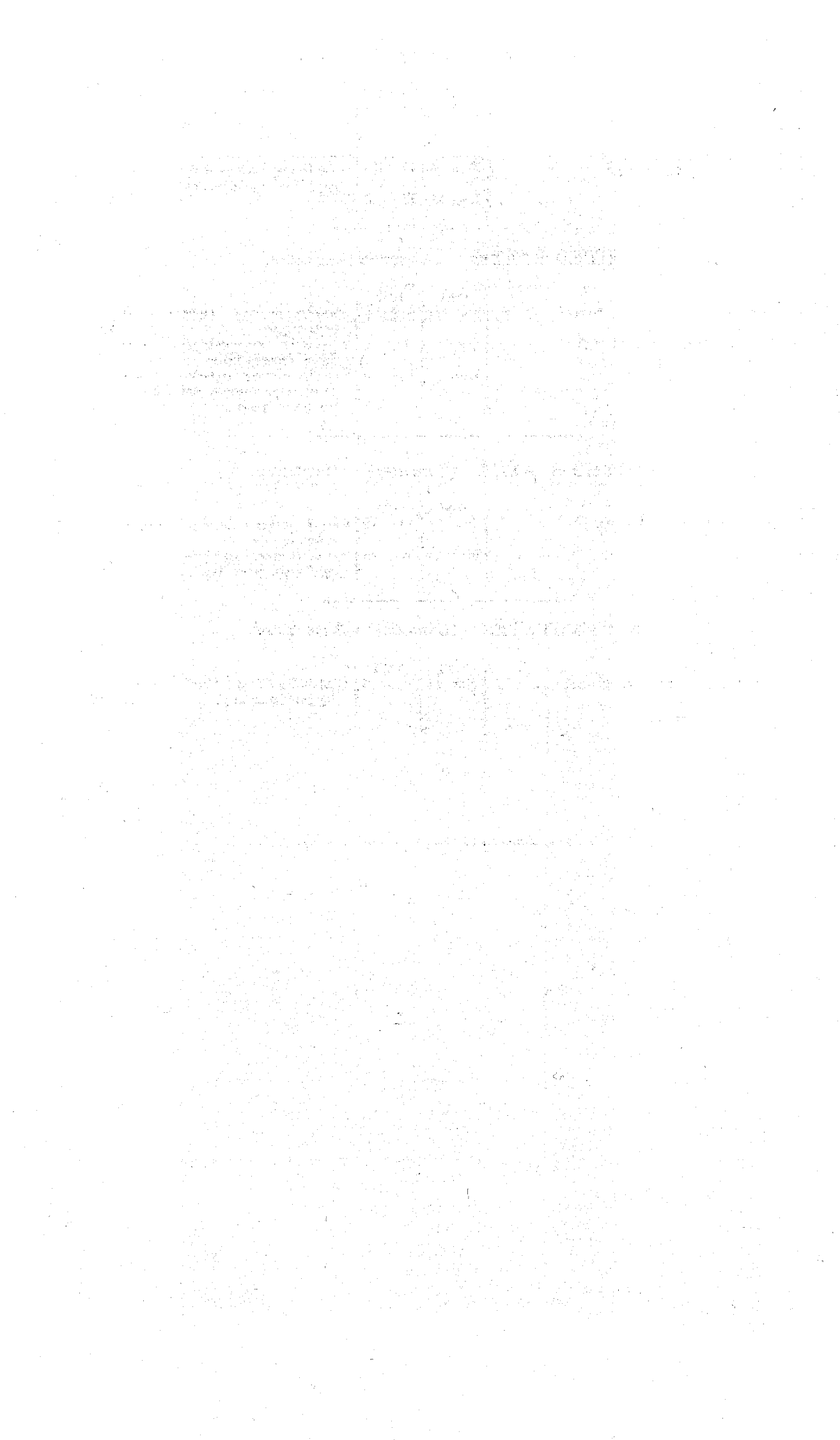
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Class B.

CORRESPONDENCE

WITH

FOREIGN POWERS.

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

No. 1.

Acting Consul Hand to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 13, 1861.)

My Lord,

Lagos, December 31, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a list of slaves redeemed and set free, and registered in the archives of the Consulate.

The inclosed list includes only cases registered, and extends to the end of the year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY HAND.

Inclosure in No. 1.

LIST of Slaves redeemed up to December 31, 1860, through the intervention of Her Majesty's Consulate at Lagos, whose Redemptions are Registered in the Archives of the Consulate.

Date.	Name.	Sex.	Estimated Age.	Country.	Price of Redemption.	By whom Redeemed.
1860						
Feb. 24	Yeabhaudy ...	Female ...	28	Yoruba ...	120 heads of cowries	Ackington.
Mar. 2	Opeogun ...	Male ...	25	Jesha ...	30 ditto ...	Ololo.
" 3	Ohmohghamelan ...	Female ...	8	Idoko ...	Free ...	John P. Boyle.
" 6	Aghetoyinbo ...	Male ...	40	Ogbomoso ...	120 heads of cowries	Ogabi.
" 6	Osunwede ...	Female ...	30	Oyo ...	Free ...	Ditto.
" 6	Ainan ...	Ditto ...	6	" ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
" 6	Omolara ...	Ditto ...	2	" ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
" 9	Ogurow ...	Ditto ...	18	Ota ...	120 heads of cowries	Guilhermina Maria.
" 21	Roya ...	Ditto ...	"	" ...	Free ...	Clara Maria Lisboa.
" 21	Bomfiem ...	Ditto ...	"	" ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
" 23	Oalomone ...	Ditto ...	20	Yagba ...	123 heads of cowries	Lade.
April 3	Ojo ...	Male ...	16	Jesha ...	120 ditto	Ogun.
" 3	Ogunbeni ...	Ditto ...	17	Ditto ...	120 ditto	Ditto.
" 18	Rakiatu ...	Female ...	22	Ditto ...	100 ditto	Fatuma.
" 17	Ogulolla ...	Ditto ...	35	Ondoa ...	27 ditto	Awapatu.
" 25	Oja ...	Ditto ...	24	Efon ...	120 ditto	Fahlolla.
June 7	Eith ...	Ditto ...	18	Jesha ...	130 ditto	Olowofaola.
July 7	John ...	Male ...	"	Ilesha ...	Free ...	Captain William Johnson.
" 7	Doorofahyae ...	Female ...	"	Gbomenah ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
" 7	Arjahye ...	Ditto ...	"	Yoruba ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
" 13	Rakiatu ...	Ditto ...	"	Hausa ...	Ditto ...	Samuel B. Williams.
Aug. 11	Felicidade ...	Ditto ...	"	Barraba ...	Ditto ...	Maria Euribes Pacheco.
Sept. 6	Sarbena ...	Male ...	20	Idoko ...	160 heads of cowries	José Francisco Conçoção.
" 6	Oyeakah ...	Female ...	18	Efon ...	Free ...	Thomas Mayne.
" 6	Farcey ...	Ditto ...	20	Badagry ...	Ditto ...	William McCoskry.
" 27	Ammanah ...	Ditto ...	16	Cape Coast Castle	Ditto ...	Mrs. T. W. Hughes.
" 27	Agarbah ...	Ditto ...	20	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
" 27	Boyah ...	Male ...	33	Efon ...	Ditto ...	Ditto.
Oct. 4	Aromahsa ...	Female ...	"	Gbomenah ...	Ditto ...	Farcey.
" 8	Fartunkeh ...	Ditto ...	"	Jesha ...	Run away from Ijebu	Samuel Jones.
Nov. 14	Fahlaha ...	Ditto ...	"	Hausa ...	Free ...	Late E. W. Thompson.
" 20	Fatima ...	Ditto ...	"	Lagos ...	Ditto ...	
Dec. 4	Margaret Cecil ...	Ditto ...	"			

(Signed)

HENRY HAND, *Acting Consul.*

British Consulate, Lagos, December 31, 1860.

No. 2.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 14.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, February 4, 1861.

HAVING good reason to believe that several of the Sierra Leone emigrants resident at Lagos not only held slaves, but purchased, bartered, and traded in them, I posted up in a conspicuous place at the entrance of my office a notice requiring all British subjects to present themselves at this Consulate for enrolment in the Consular register.

Up to this moment not one Sierra Leone emigrant has presented himself.

I accordingly deemed it expedient to issue another public notice of which the inclosure is a copy, further fixing a period for the said enrolment; also informing these emigrants and others claiming British protection, that I shall withhold the protection of my flag from all claiming such protection, who may either hold, deal in, purchase, or barter slaves.

I have also directed the Clerk of the Court to refuse to entertain for trial any case brought for entry, where the plaintiff, being a British subject or under British protection, may be either a slave-holder, or directly or indirectly connected with the Trade.

The foregoing, in the case of coloured British subjects, will cast them completely under the rule of the King, and I believe will be the means of eventually checking an inhuman and barbarous custom, which is a still greater outrage when perpetrated by the very individuals who have themselves escaped from a cruel bondage, after entailing a heavy cost of life and treasure upon Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure in No. 2.

*Notice.**British Consulate, Lagos, February 4, 1861.*

NOTWITHSTANDING that due notice has been posted up at this Consulate requiring all persons claiming British protection to repair to this Consulate to register their names, the requisition has not yet been complied with.

The Undersigned, therefore, again repeats that he will not recognize or protect in any difficulties or suits whatsoever, such as neglect or refuse to make application to be enrolled, and that the 28th day of February is the utmost limit of time the Undersigned can allow for the completion of such enrolment.

The Undersigned further gives notice that, upon the completion of said list, a copy will be transmitted to King Docemo, in order that the King may distinguish between such coloured persons as may be subject to his rule, and those who are entitled to British protection.

The Undersigned further gives both British subjects and such coloured persons as may be temporarily under British protection, fully to understand that such as deal or trade in, purchase, sell, barter, or transfer slaves or persons intended to be dealt with as slaves, or who have become security for the loan or advance, or contract for the lending or advancing money, goods, or effects employed, or to be employed, in accomplishing any contract in relation to the trading in or holding slaves, shall not be considered as entitled to British protection, nor can they under any circumstances appeal for aid or assistance from this Consulate.

(Signed) HENRY GRANT FOOTE.

No. 3.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 14.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, February 9, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to forward the inclosed letter from Mr. Samuel Pearse.

Referring to that part of Mr. Pearse's letter in which he alludes to some natives who were brought from a village to Badagry, a portion to be sacrificed, and the remainder to be sold into slavery, I have to mention that I shall send a messenger at once with a letter to the Chiefs demanding the release of the unfortunates.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Mr. Pearse to Consul Foote.

(Extract.)

Badagry, February 6, 1861.

I AM thankful to be able to inform you that I arrived here safely the next morning I left Lagos.

I have to inform you that a number of (say from 8 to 12) poor and helpless people were brought here from a village between this place and Lagos, and placed in the hands of the Chiefs and fetish men of this place to be sacrificed to the fetishes. They are accused of witchcraft, and are kept in custody by the Chiefs and fetish men. I have heard that those of them who are worn out and emaciated by old age will not escape the inhuman torture and death, but the middle-aged are to be sold into slavery.

As to their manner of convicting and condemning them I have not had an insight; but one thing I am sure of, that it is based on gross and heathenish superstition.

I wrote to inform the late Consul Brand of a similar case that happened in his time, and he wrote to warn the Chiefs against it, but unfortunately his letter came a day too late. This is an old practice of the Popoe nation; the treatment of the corpses is most inhuman and disgusting. No less than the Consular interference can effectually abolish such evil practice, and that not without the intervention of force, inasmuch as the people are singularly wild in superstition. I hope you will find it worth your interference.

No. 4.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 14.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, February 9, 1861.

SINCE my arrival at my post I have not neglected an opportunity of making myself acquainted with all matters of interest within my Consulate, and more particularly with Slave Trade matters. I have conversed with residents from all the suspected ports, and, although I observed a strong disinclination upon the part of the traders to divulge anything in connection with the export of slaves, still, by combining one account with the other, and then referring to the archives of this Consulate, I have arrived at a pretty clear estimate, not only of what has already been done, but of the means most likely to put an end to the Traffic in Slaves.

On referring to any chart of the West Coast, your Lordship will observe that, with the exception of the Ogun river, which flows into the sea at Lagos, there is no other outlet for the many creeks and rivers extending from Lagos westward almost to Cape St. Paul. These lagoons are navigable for canoes nearly the whole extent, and in certain localities, such as between Badagry and Porto Novo, they are clear, and carry a sufficient depth of water for large vessels.

This singular formation of the coast has been caused by the heavy surf, which, having thrown banks of sand across the river-mouths, has eventually turned the waters into a channel running parallel with the beach, and in certain spots approaching the coast to within a few yards.

These inland waters form natural canals, through which the whole Slave Traffic of the coast is carried on.

At certain intervals, and when the lagoons approach most closely to the sea, are situated several little trading establishments. These were originally all slave barracoons, used solely as depôts for the various gangs of slaves which came down from the interior; and to this day, although a quantity of palm oil now finds its way to them, and goods are landed for trading purposes, still it is well known that the inhabitants of the towns of Badagry, Porto Novo, Appi, Jackin, Whydah, Great and Little Popoe, Aghwey, &c., are all more or less interested in the Traffic in Slaves.

Our cruisers are watched the instant they appear in sight. A cruiser sights Badagry, her arrival is immediately communicated, viâ the lagoons, to all the small stations, and in an incredibly short time the slaves to be shipped are scattered, in parties of five and six, at the different agencies of the Brazilian factories. They are nominally household slaves. The Brazilian merchant has houses of business at Lagos and other places; he sends for some more "hands" to work at his factories at Whydah, &c. The cruiser gets tired of waiting, and, although her Commander sees a brigantine or two at anchor, he sees nothing suspicious on board of her. She is probably loading a few casks of palm oil, and he goes off the land. A few hours after, the brigantine can purchase, from the Bristol trader

alongside of him, what stores he wants. The empty oil-casks on shore in the compound of the slave-dealer are filled with water. During the night, the slaves scattered here and there (for nearly all slave-cargoes are joint-stock concerns) are collected, and shipped before daylight, and the slaver is soon off and out of sight. The cruizer is outside, but at this season the "harmatan," a hazy state of the atmosphere common to the coast, and more dense than a London fog, allows the slaver to get well off from the land.

The "*City of Norfolk*," an American steamer, as I have been informed by a runaway slave, was filled in one night by small parties of slaves which were shipped from the ports above mentioned, and the cargo belonged to a company, in which, I am told, several traders at Badagry, Whydah, Porto Novo, Aghwey, and some even in Lagos, held shares.

So complete and so rapidly conducted is the communication between the slave-dealers, and so secret are their plans, that it is impossible to gather sufficient evidence for their conviction. Thus we are powerless to act; we have not proof sufficient for decided action, and the men-of-war, however numerous, are puzzled; they cruize up and down, see nothing, are slyly watched from the shore by the principal slave-dealers, and must only trust to chance for a seizure.

A steamer drawing two or three feet water, however small, would be of more service in putting down the Slave Trade than a dozen additional cruizers on the coast. In fact, we should then be able to dispense with one-half of the number of the gun-boats now employed on this service.

Without we actually have force within reach, and ready for instant action, we cannot hope to abolish the Slave Trade on the coast. So demoralizing is its influence upon every one, whether black or white, that not only do Europeans engage indirectly in it, but the very liberated Africans who have been fostered under our protection, and for whose sake many good missionaries have died under the task of enlightening them, have forgotten all the teachings of the missionaries, and are now engaged in the barter and sale of their own countrymen.

No. 5.

Lord J. Russell to Consul Foote.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 21, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo, inclosing an extract of a letter from Mr. Pearse, a missionary residing at Badagry, reporting the arrival at that place of a number of unfortunate natives seized in the neighbouring country, who are destined to be sacrificed to the fetishes; and I have in reply to acquaint you that I approve your intention of sending a messenger to Badagry to demand the release of these victims.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 6.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell,—(Received April 10.)

My Lord,

Lagos, March 9, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the accompanying copy of a despatch sent to me by the Alake of Abbeokuta, in which the Alake denies having agreed to any Treaty by which the whole of the lands of the Egbas, as far as they extend, are open to American coloured emigrants.

I have lost no time in forwarding the copy of the Alake's despatch, as it is of importance that the African Aid Association, who are greatly interested in the colonization of this part of Africa, should be made acquainted with the facts in connection with the scheme of Messrs. Campbell and Delany.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY GRANT FOOTE.

Inclosure in No. 6.

*The Alake of Abbeokuta to Consul Foote.**Abbeokuta, March 4, 1861.*

THE Alake and Chiefs send their respects to you, and wishing you a good health.

The Alake and Chiefs having learnt that Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell, two American coloured men, who came to Abbeokuta last year and returned back to America, on their reaching home published in newspaper to this effect,—that the Alake and Chiefs signed a Treaty with them on their request. In that newspaper, the Alake and Chiefs do understand were printed, that the whole lands belonging to the Egbas as far as they extend, are open to them, and they are at liberty, at any time, to go wherever they please and to form a colony.

The Alake and Chiefs declare that this is a downright fabrication, and that they signed no Treaty, but that the Alake granted Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell's request to make farms is true, as will be seen as follows :—

Ake, Abbeokuta, February 8, 1861.

The Alake, in the presence of the Undersigned, denied having signed any Treaty with the Americans, and also denied having granted them leave to form a colony without the walls of Abbeokuta.

The Alake states that he remembers Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell coming to him to ask for a lot of land for farming, which he granted them, but he had no other transaction with them.

The Alake will not accept the person of any white man who does not come to him recommended by the English Consul, the Church or Wesleyan Missionaries.

(Signed)

J. M. TURNER.

WILLIAM COLE.

JOHN CRAIGG.

JOHN THOMAS.

JOHN DICK.

WILLIAM PETER.

JOHN TAYLOR.

DAVID WILLIAMS, *King Alake's Clerk*

ANDREW WILHELM.

No. 7.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 10.)

My Lord,

Lagos, March 9, 1861.

REFERRING to the last paragraph of my despatch of February 9th, in which I reported that certain natives had been brought from a village to Badagry, a portion to be sacrificed, and the others to be sold, I have the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship that, upon my threatening the parties concerned and the Chiefs if such a thing should be allowed, the whole of the unfortunates were returned to their families and friends.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY GRANT FOOTE.

No. 8.

Lord Wodehouse to Consul Foote.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 23, 1861.

I AM directed by Lord John Russell to transmit to you the accompanying copies of a letter, and its inclosures, from the African Aid Society, containing explanations in regard to the alleged denial on the part of the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta that they had signed a Treaty with the Commissioners on behalf of the free American blacks, granting permission to them to settle on the unoccupied lands belonging to Abbeokuta; and I am to instruct you to endeavour to ascertain and to report to his Lordship how this matter really stands.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

WODEHOUSE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 8.

*Lord A. Churchill to Lord Wodehouse.**African Aid Society, 12, York Buildings, Adelphi,
April 22, 1861.*

My Lord,

OUR Secretary acknowledged the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 15th instant, inclosing a letter from the Alake of Abbeokuta, forwarded through Mr. Consul Foote of Lagos.

The Alake therein states that he signed no Treaty with Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell on behalf of the African race in America, but that he did grant permission to those gentlemen to reside in the town, and form farms without the walls.

Fortunately, the arrival in this country of Samuel Crowther, Junior, son of the celebrated missionary of that name, has enabled the Committee to inquire into the truth of the allegations of the document purporting to have come from the Alake.

I have the honour now to inclose the statement of Mr. Crowther in reply, he having been the attesting witness to the signatures of the impugned Treaty. The Committee believe that Mr. Crowther's statement is substantially correct.

It is true that this Treaty, published here and in America on the authority of Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell, differs verbally in Article I from the understanding arrived at between those gentlemen and the Alake. The version given by Mr. Crowther fully explains how this deviation occurred, the modification of the original text proposed by the Alake being really intended as an explanation of the construction put by him upon Article I of the Treaty to which he affixed his signature.

The Committee believe that so far from this construction vitiating the position and rights the coloured immigrants would enjoy under the Treaty, it will, so soon as they are informed of its nature, impart additional confidence to them, in the assurance it conveys that the Alake was prepared to give them the most efficacious protection in his power on their undertaking to reside within the walls of Abbeokuta.

They are confidently informed by parties acquainted with the country that there does exist on the part of the natives a desire to enjoy the advantages that would accrue from the contact of civilized coloured people from America, and the skill and knowledge they are able to impart.

They wish, however, to state, in addition, that there appears reason to believe that much jealous apprehension is felt by strangers at present residing there, as to the probable commercial competition that would attend the influx of intelligent coloured people from America.

This, they trust, will have its due weight with your Lordship in considering the contents of the documents to which this letter refers.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

ALFRED S. CHURCHILL,
Chairman of the African Aid Society.

Inclosure 2 in No. 8.

Mr. Crowther to Lord A. Churchill.

My Lord,

50, Baker Street, Portman Square, April 18, 1861.

DURING Dr. Delany's and Mr. Campbell's visit to Abbeokuta, the Rev. S. Crowther (my father) and myself were asked by the above gentlemen to accompany them to the Alake, or King of Abbeokuta, to witness and attest to the signing of the following Treaty; we walked together to the King's palace between 3 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when the following Treaty was read and signed by the King of Abbeokuta in the presence of his courtiers, the elders of the town, and the Representatives of the Chiefs, on the one part, and Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell, Commissioners, on the other part, the Rev. S. Crowther and myself witnessing to it.

"Article I. That the King and Chief on their part agree to grant and assign unto the said Commissioners, on behalf of the African race in America, the right and privilege of farming in common with the Egba people, and of building their houses and residing in the town of Abbeokuta, and intermingling with the population.

"Art. II. That all matters requiring legal investigation among the settlers be left to themselves to be disposed of according to their own custom.

"Art. III. That the Commissioners on their part also agree that the settlers shall bring

with them as an equivalent for the privileges above accorded, intelligence, education, a knowledge of the arts and sciences, agriculture, and other mechanical and industrial occupations which they shall put into immediate operation by improving the lands, and in other useful vocations.

“Art. IV. That the laws of the Egba people shall be strictly respected by the settlers, and in all matters in which both parties are concerned an equal number of Commissioners, mutually agreed upon, shall be appointed, who shall have power to settle such matters.”

The first wording of the Treaty presented to the King had been previously drawn out on parchment, having the 1st Article in this form:—

“Article I. That the King and Chiefs on their part agree to grant and assign unto said Commissioners, on behalf of the African race in America, the right and privilege of settling in common with the Egba people on any part of the territory belonging to Abbeokuta not otherwise occupied.”

The Alake or King of Abbeokuta not being able to read or write, had the Articles of the Treaty interpreted and explained to him by the Rev. S. Crowther in the native tongue, clause by clause, while Mr. Campbell read them.

To the following clause he objected, “of settling on any part of the territory belonging to Abbeokuta not otherwise occupied,” rendering the Article thus: “the right and privilege of farming in common with the Egba people, and of building their houses and residing in the town of Abbeokuta, intermingling with the population.” With this impression the King as well as ourselves signed the Treaty. The Alake or King previous to marking his ✕ against his name, expressed fully his reasons for wishing that Dr. Delany, Mr. Campbell, and the settlers expected should intermingle with the Egbas at Abbeokuta, and not be separately located:—

1st. That they be under his immediate control.

2nd. That they be within the reach of his protection from the assaults of neighbouring tribes.

3rd. That they render him all assistance in protecting Abbeokuta from the Dahomians and other invaders.

4th. That the inhabitants of Abbeokuta might receive immediate advantage from their superior intelligence in agriculture and other arts and sciences.

For a further confirmation of the above statements, of which I have been an eye-witness and personally concerned in the formation of the Treaty, I would refer you to the Rev. S. Crowther at Lagos.

Hoping that this may assist you in the successful accomplishment of the noble object of the African Aid Society.

I beg, &c.
(Signed) SAML. CROWTHER, Jun.

Inclosure 3 in No. 8.

Mr. Crowther to Lord A. Churchill.

My Lord,

50, Baker Street, Portman Square, April 18, 1861.

THUS the above Treaty was satisfactorily made and signed by the parties concerned on the 27th of December, 1859. The King and Chiefs of Abbeokuta were perfectly satisfied, confident, and assured of the sincerity of the Commissioners, from the fact, as has been afterwards expressed by them, their conviction that the introduction of anything good into the country by resident civilized coloured men could not but result from a sincere motive. Since the above date to the departure of my father and self from Abbeokuta, February 1861, I have not heard any opinion expressed either by the King, Chiefs, or people against the Treaty, as it was understood; but, on the contrary, constant inquiries have been made after the Commissioners and their expected companions.

But, my Lord, a few days after the formation of the Treaty, and the Commissioners had quitted Abbeokuta on their way to the inland countries to complete their work with the more distant tribes, all of whom received them with open hands and great joy, Chief Ogubonna, one of the King's chief warriors, who had also signed the Treaty, called to my house, and among other conversations confidentially informed me that “jealousy” had crept into the affair, the late formation of the Treaty; that two old European missionaries residing in the town of Abbeokuta, one of whom had kindly offered his services to the King of Abbeokuta as his private Secretary, and succeeding me in that capacity—that these two missionaries, immediately after the departure of the Commissioners, had either

visited himself, or sent messengers to him, the King and other Chiefs, expressing their regret, surprise, and disappointment that they were not made instrumental in introducing the Commissioners to the authorities, and attesting to their signature, and further, that they thought they had the "right" of such a privilege; but the King and Chiefs, not seeming to notice the dispute of "right," were further taxed with the representation that the Commissioners had a hostile motive, and that one day the settlers will rise against them and take their town from them. Although such statements from such men were calculated to alarm and rouse the timid minds of these illiterate men, yet, notwithstanding, the Chief assured me that they would take no notice of the insinuations; the Chiefs knew very well that such accounts originated from a "petty jealousy" as to who has or who has not the right of enjoying the privilege and receiving the honour of introducing parties to the authorities, took no notice of it; thus the first attempt was made to destroy the Treaty.

Confident as I am of my countrymen's good common sense and judgment; assured as I am of their readiness to take advice, I am not backward to affirm that this great, apparently startling contradiction is not to be looked upon as the legitimate result of any desire of the King of Abbeokuta and his Chiefs to destroy a Treaty which they themselves made and signed before competent witnesses; neither to prevent the return of coloured American settlers.

No public or private opinion was ever expressed in my hearing by the King and Chiefs against civilized coloured Americans settling, like the Sierra Leone emigrants, among them.

The facts above stated will explain at once the cause of the King's contradictory letter.

I hope, therefore, that you be not alarmed, but would advise you simply to consider the affair as a misunderstanding with the King and his Chiefs, and inclose to them the Treaty in the form I inclose you, to be explained to them through an unbiassed party. I should recommend the Rev. S. Crowther, having been the attest to the Treaty made on that occasion.

I am quite certain that the simple-minded King of Abbeokuta, with his noble Chiefs of good common sense and judgment, will, if left to themselves and made to speak for themselves, relate you a story entirely different from what has appeared in his so-called letter. I warrant, from my nine years' acquaintance with the King and Chiefs of Abbeokuta, that they would grant you even more than may have been contained in this former Treaty, if desired, for the facility of the emigration of their countrymen into their mother-land.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) SAML. CROWTHER, Jun.

Inclosure 4 in No. 8.

Mr. Crowther to Lord A. Churchill.

(Extract.)

50, Baker Street, Portman Square, April 18, 1861.

AS this apparent contradiction of the fact of a Treaty having been signed by the Alake, King of Abbeokuta, his Chiefs, and Dr. Delany and Mr. Campbell, will, no doubt, cause you some annoyance and a difficulty in reconciling, I proceed to explain to you some important facts which might enable you to understand the whole affair fully:—

1st. The six names at the foot of the document should not alarm you, they are the names of Sierra Leone emigrants whom I personally know, all of whom I question rightly understand the particulars of the case; they are men who, with the right explanation given them, would any day sign another document expressing the non-objection of the Alake to allow other coloured emigrants like themselves to dwell amongst them. The points objected to by the King and Chiefs during the formation of the Treaty seemed to have been represented afresh to him with great stress in the presence of the witnesses, so as to insure the King's denial to having agreed to such conditions, and thus bring about the destruction of a Treaty that had been formed.

I could almost promise you on my return to Africa to send you a document of a directly opposite nature signed by the King's own hand, with the signature of the identical Sierra emigrants in question.

2ndly. Mr. D. Williams, whose name is attached, is a schoolmaster under the Rev. H. Townsend, and copies all letters written by the above gentleman for the King. Andrew Wilhelm is the interpreter of the Rev. H. Townsend. I had been the Secretary

of the King of Abbeokuta by the joint wish of the late B. Campbell, Consul of Lagos, and the Alake, or King of Abbeokuta, but in consequence of my absence from Abbeokuta I was obliged to resign the office; the Rev. H. Townsend has since acted, and on my return I had no time to reoccupy my former duties. I am, therefore, capable of giving you an idea of "the King's letters." The King receives advice from parties, chiefly the Secretary, that such and such is necessary: he replies, If you think so, write it on my behalf. The King's letter is worded and expressed and sent by the Secretary, and in many cases without a reading with the King; but the King is satisfied, he depends upon the faithfulness of his Secretary: in many cases, therefore, the Secretary broaches the idea, writes the letter, and sends it with the Alake's name. The King of Abbeokuta is a quiet, docile, well-meaning man, of no literary attainment, and not a Christian, but of sound judgment.

The time that the King of Abbeokuta wrote his contradictory letter was the 4th of March, 1861, after the parties, witnesses to the Treaty, having been found had left Abbeokuta for Lagos and England the month previous.

Any more information to enlighten you on the said scheme that is going on to prevent the success of such a noble object will be most willingly given by your humble servant.

No. 9.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 12.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, May 8, 1861.

IN my despatch of April 1, I reported to your Lordship my intention of proceeding on the following day to Abbeokuta.

I accordingly left Lagos at 6 A.M. of the 2nd for the mainland. The distance from the island is not very great—about an hour's pulling. I considered it advisable before leaving to make an arrangement with the Rev. Mr. Crowther to accompany me.

I considered his services of great importance. His thorough knowledge of the people, of the language, and of the history of the country, of the wars, and the various influences which impeded or advanced the improvement of the people, weighed a good deal in my choice of a companion.

We mounted our horses on landing and struck into a narrow path, which led directly through fields of maize, cassada, and yams. The soil every instant became more consistent, the sand being mixed with red and black loam alternately. From the appearance of the root-crops and maize, I should say it was very productive. For Sea Island cotton it is the very best, and having the advantage of the sea air, so necessary for Sea Island, I should say cotton of the best quality could be produced upon it.

This beautiful and rich level country extends for about three leagues to the Great Forest. The forest extends from the Niger to the Ashantee country, preserving an uniform breadth of about thirty-seven miles.

We entered the forest just as the sun became troublesome. The soil I observed to be exceedingly rich, composed of black and red loam and clay; the timber of immense size; the cotton tree predominating, but here and there I observed some gigantic hardwood trees, including the African oak, fustic, and a tree resembling the Central American cedar, a species of bastard mahogany; also the india-rubber, and the rosewood, besides numberless others which I did not know, but I should think, from the colour and grain, they would take an excellent polish, and be considered valuable in Europe.

Of smaller shrubs, balsams, and trees producing fibre, there are several in the forest.

Here and there a small clearing had been commenced, but so great is the dread of the kidnappers of Dahomey that the people cannot live on their small farms. They merely clear and plant a small space of ground, and retire to their towns in the evening.

We passed the ruins of several small villages, the only melancholy remnants left by the kidnappers. Here and there also we saw abandoned cotton-fields, the cotton still flourishing, blossoming, and scattering its wool over the ground, for not a soul cared about gathering it.

We conversed with the villagers, and here and there with the people we observed at work. The invariable answer to our question whether they would plant cotton if they could get a ready sale for it, was, "Yes; we will make farms, we will plant anything, and live upon our farms, if you will only defend us from the kidnappers."

The African has generally the reputation of being lazy and disinclined to work, but you can scarcely credit this when you observe them planting their little plots of ground at the constant risk of their liberty, or even lives, and occasionally walking some five or six

miles in the morning, and then again the same in the evening, on their way to and from their lands. I believe the African to be most partial to an agricultural life, and that he merely wants that security which is essential to his pursuits in order to render him active and industrious.

Passing the belt of forest, we entered upon a grassy prairie interspersed with what are called timbers in North America; the soil still magnificent: and as we neared Abbeokuta, the villages and farms became more plentiful. I observed several fields of the beni plant, and most carefully cultivated. In fact all the fields were in a high state of cultivation, which is another proof of the industry of the natives when we consider the rude implements used by them.

On the 4th, when we had arrived within about eight miles of Abbeokuta, we met an escort of horsemen and the King's herald. He presented the King's staff to welcome me, and immediately afterwards we proceeded on our journey, our escort gradually increasing as we neared the city. They were all armed, and, according to their custom, they fired off their guns at intervals, flourished their spears, and dashed off to the right and left at full speed, then returned and fell in the rear. In this manner we passed the city-gates and through the town until we arrived at the King's Palace.

On the following day I visited the King, and I must say my reception was most cordial. I had always heard that the friendship of the Egbas towards the English was most cordial, but I was really not prepared to find that this, I may call it affection, for us, was so general. From the poorest labourer to the most powerful Chief, this good feeling and perfect confidence in us seem a part of their nature; and I can only attribute this to the influence of the missionaries, in the first place, and secondly, to the fact that many leading and influential men now resident at Abbeokuta have been rescued from slavery by our cruisers.

The missionary schools are also slowly, but surely, working a great change in the character of the African.

Several of the Kings and Chiefs of the neighbourhood, and a few from the far interior, have sent their children to be educated by the English missionaries.

The King appointed a special day for a palaver. There is one feature in the mode of government of Abbeokuta which, being distinct from all the other native Governments, should be generally known, and that is, the inability of the King (Alake) to act in any matter affecting the interests of his country without the consent of his Councillors or Elders.

No act of any kind, no grants of privileges, no Treaties with foreign nations or with individuals, are binding without the consent of the Elders and Chiefs in Council. The Alake or King is merely a President, and the country of the Egbas a Republic.

Hence the alleged Treaty with Messrs. Campbell and Delany has been denied. The Alake denies it, and the Chiefs and Elders knew nothing about it.

I alluded in the presence of the Alake and Elders to the wish of Her Majesty's Government to encourage agriculture, and particularly the cultivation of cotton, and that this great object could be easily carried out by the encouragement of emigrants skilled in cotton cultivation.

They answered, "that the Egbas will willingly receive any emigrants sent by the English Government, but not under any other circumstances. What the English Government wishes, the Egbas will do."

The city of Abbeokuta, which has been so often described in such glowing colours, does not even approach the idea entertained in England of its magnitude. The wall is so low and the ditch so shallow that a good horseman could ride over any part of it. Within the walls you have to ride an immense distance before you come to a collection of houses, and those upon a nearer approach are mere clusters of mud huts, the outer walls being scarcely 6 feet high, built without any regularity, the streets crooked and most filthy and broken into sundry little ravines. In fact, neither in population, in appearance, nor in importance, does Abbeokuta approach the descriptions we have received of it. I have ridden on horseback through and around it, and cannot believe that the population can exceed 60,000, and these do not reside in a compact mass of houses, but in small detached towns situated about a mile or two apart. All are of the most wretched miserable description. The doorway of the King's Palace is even so low that I was obliged to stoop upon entering it.

Lagos is the port of Abbeokuta; the trade of Abbeokuta itself is not great, it is merely one of the little streams which serve to swell our yearly exports from Lagos

I remained at Abbeokuta till the 17th, so that I had ample time to make myself thoroughly acquainted not only with the people but also with the trade and its political condition.

I left Abbeokuta on the 17th, and returned to Lagos by the River Ogun. I embarked in a small canoe, and reached Lagos in about thirty-six hours, including a stoppage of nine hours.

From Abbeokuta almost to Lagos the river-bank is highly cultivated, and I am told that the fields extend several miles back; the only break I saw was when the forest commenced, and even there several clearings were observed. The people living on the banks of the Ogun told us that since the English took Lagos the kidnappers had not troubled them.

The same timber I observed on the land route I saw here in abundance. I could not help thinking of the fortunes which lay buried in the woods; such magnificent trees on the very banks of the river within a day's journey of Lagos. The river itself is capitally adapted for floating timber, being almost free of obstructions; the logs could be squared on the spot, and rafted out to the ships at anchor in the roadstead.

Respecting our hopes of obtaining a supply of cotton from Abbeokuta, I find the only difficulty in the way is the dread entertained of the kidnappers of the King of Dahomey. The soil and climate are most favourable, the people industrious, lands easily obtainable and in abundance, together with easy transport by the Ogun river: these embody all the requisites but one, and that is, security; and whilst the King of Dahomey exists as the Ruler of his country this insecurity will continue. The King of Dahomey must comply with the custom—he must sacrifice a certain number of people yearly; thus, independently of his naturally bloodthirsty disposition, he is obliged by the laws of his country to comply with the customs. His naturally vicious and depraved character, encouraged by the slave-dealers, causes him to laugh at any proposals from us; his last threat was, that the first Englishman or Frenchman he caught he would shave his head and make him carry the hammock of his principal adviser, the celebrated slave-dealer Domingo Martinez. Martinez has gained his influence over the King by his yearly present of some thousands of silver dollars; he also acts as the slave-factor of the King.

If the Egbas could make themselves masters of the country, the whole of the petty Chiefs on the coast would rejoice at their occupation; and certainly the great object we have in view, viz., the abolition of slavery, would be finally secured if our friends the Egbas did extend their possessions to the coast, including Whydah and the other Dahomian slave-trading ports.

No. 10.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 12.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, May 8, 1861.

THE Alake of Abbeokuta having called the Elders together in Secret Council, I proceeded to the King's palace, and, aided by the Rev. Mr. Crowther, who acted as interpreter, I held a lengthy conversation with them upon all the subjects of interest to us.

I laid before them, in as clear a manner as I could, the wishes of our Government in respect to the cultivation of cotton, the encouragement of trade, and of useful and respectable emigrants.

I also recited their own history from the commencement of their intercourse with us, alluding also to the numbers of their countrymen who were now prosperous and happy at Abbeokuta, but who might have been toiling as slaves on the Cuban plantations to this day, had not the English cruizers liberated them.

They resolved to open their roads and the river again to trade on the 21st of May.

No. 11.

Consul Foote to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 12.)

My Lord,

Lagos, May 9, 1861.

I HAVE to report the arrival, on board Her Majesty's ship "Arrogant," of Captain Jones and a small detachment of ten men of the 2nd West India Regiment.

They have been sent for service at Abbeokuta, but the Commodore considers it advisable that Captain Jones should first proceed alone to that place, in order to report upon its strength, and the condition of the native troops.

The ten men have been ordered in the meantime to remain at this Consulate as a guard.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

HENRY GRANT FOOTE.

No. 12.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 11.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, June 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, having directed inquiry into the subject to which Lord Wodehouse refers in his despatch of the 23rd of April last, I am convinced that the Treaty between the Commissioners on behalf of free emigrants from America, and the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta, was duly signed by the latter. The Alake signed the Treaty in daylight, in the presence of his Elders and messengers from the Chiefs. The Chiefs signed the Treaty separately, as it was presented to them, not publicly in a body.

The meaning of each clause of the Treaty was explained to the Alake and Chiefs by the Rev. S. Crowther before they signed, the construction of Article I being, that the immigrants should live in the town, and not in the country outside the walls.

There can be no doubt that the subsequent denial of the Treaty by the Alake and Chiefs was the effect of arguments used to them by residents there opposed to the scheme. The Republic of Liberia was held out as the result of a similar system of emigration from America. It was represented that the immigrants would erect forts, and, opportunity offered, they would drive the natives from the country and take possession of the soil.

I am of opinion that, now, as the suspicions of the natives have been aroused, the scheme would be more likely to succeed were the emigrants to put themselves under the protection of some Government known to the people of Abbeokuta, who would then have less fear of intrusion on their territorial rights and privileges, and all matters of dispute could be settled by the Representative of that Government and the Alake and Chiefs.

In conclusion, I would observe that, whatever the Treaty may be worth, there can be no doubt that it was signed by the Alake and Chiefs, with the knowledge of all who could claim any right to know, and that a copy of that Treaty was left with the Alake; that there was no secrecy in the matter; and that it was not until a powerful opposition influence had been brought to bear upon the Alake and Chiefs that the Treaty was denied.

No. 13.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 11.)

My Lord,

Lagos, June 10, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you herewith a Return of the numbers of slaves liberated at this Consulate from the 12th March to 30th April, 1861.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. Mc COSKRY.

Inclosure in No. 13.

RETURN of Slaves Liberated and Apprenticed through the intervention of Henry Grant Foote, Esq., Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, from the 12th March to the 30th April, 1861.

Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.
99 apprenticed. 31 free.	90 apprenticed. 91 free.	109 apprenticed. 4 free.	75 apprenticed.

British Consulate, Lagos.

(Signed)

W. Mc COSKRY,
Acting Consul.

No. 14.

Lord J. Russell to Acting Consul Mc Coskry.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a report* from Captain Jones, of the 2nd West Indian Regiment, who has recently been employed on special service at Abbeokuta.

* Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

You will perceive that Captain Jones states that the guns, carriages, ammunition, &c., which have been at various times presented by Her Majesty's Government to the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta, are lying about in different parts of the town without any regard to their preservation, and that the carriages are fast decaying, and the various accessories either lost or broken.

I have to instruct you to express to the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta the regret of Her Majesty's Government that better care has not been bestowed on the preservation of the guns presented to them on a former occasion by the British Government, and which, if kept in an efficient state, would be of great service in repelling any attack that might be made by the Dahomians.

You will add, also, that if the Abbeokutans wish for the continued assistance and support of the British Government, they must prove by something more substantial than mere promises that they are willing to accept and act upon the advice tendered to them by British Agents,

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 15.

Lord J. Russell to Acting Consul Mc Coskry.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 23, 1861.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 5th ultimo, I transmit herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter which, by my directions, has been addressed to Lord Alfred Churchill, the Chairman of the Committee of the African Aid Society, relative to the Treaty or Agreement stated to have been signed by the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta with Messrs. Campbell and Delany, the Commissioners on behalf of the free black emigrants from America, granting to these latter permission to settle on the unoccupied lands belonging to the Abbeokutans.

I also inclose a copy of a letter which I have received from the African Aid Society, together with a list, giving the particulars of a number of emigrants who are desirous of proceeding to Africa under the auspices of the Society; and I have to desire that, in conformity with what I have stated to Lord Alfred Churchill, you will afford these emigrants the benefit of your advice and assistance in the event of their proceeding to Lagos.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Lord Wodehouse to Lord A. Churchill.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 22, 1861.

WITH reference to my letter of the 15th of April last, I am directed by Lord John Russell to transmit to you, for the information of the Committee of the African Aid Society, the accompanying copy of a despatch from Mr. McCoskry, the Acting British Consul at Lagos,* reporting the result of inquiries made by him in regard to the alleged denial on the part of the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta, that they had signed a Treaty with the Commissioners on behalf of the American blacks, granting permission to them to settle on the unoccupied lands belonging to the Abbeokutans.

Mr. McCoskry, you will perceive, appears to be convinced that the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta did actually sign a Treaty or Agreement with Messrs. Delany and Campbell on behalf of the black emigrants of America, but he believes that they were subsequently induced to deny that they had done so by the arguments of persons opposed to the scheme.

Mr. Foote, Her Majesty's late Consul at Lagos, on the other hand, would seem, as will be seen by the accompanying extract of a private letter from him, to have been of opinion that the grants to Messrs. Delany and Campbell had no validity whatever.

However this may be, Lord J. Russell desires me to state that he is of opinion that it would be unwise to attempt to procure for the American emigrants territorial rights or privileges which might hereafter lead to disputes, and rouse the jealousy of the Chiefs and people of Abbeokuta, and his Lordship would therefore recommend that before any considerable number of emigrant negroes are sent to Lagos, precise information should be procured as to the terms on which such emigrants will be received at Abbeokuta.

* No. 12.

I am, however, to add that his Lordship will transmit to Mr. McCoskry the list which accompanied your letter of the 12th ultimo, of emigrants who are desirous of proceeding to Africa under the auspices of the African Aid Society, and will instruct him to afford them the benefit of his advice and assistance in the event of their proceeding to Lagos.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WODEHOUSE.

No. 16.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 12.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, July 4, 1861.

FROM the report of Captain Jones, who has been at the seat of war between Abbeokuta and Ibadan, I see no probability of the war being terminated by military operations this year.

It seems, however, as both sides begin to be seriously affected by the war, that some chance is open for negotiation. I therefore asked Captain Jones if he would undertake a journey to Ibadan, and if necessary, to Oyo, the capital of Yoruba, in order, if possible, to obtain a cessation of hostilities, and refer the point in dispute to some disinterested Power. That energetic officer at once consented, and made preparations for the journey.

As the road lies through Jebu, a message was sent to the King of that tribe, stating that a British officer would pass through his country, and would on the way call to see him, and explain the object of his journey, and ask his assistance.

Captain Jones started yesterday. With him the King of Lagos has also sent a messenger to the King of Oyo, with the view of persuading him to terminate the war.

Should this mission prove unsuccessful, the best thing to be done is to stop the supplies of war material to both parties.

No. 17.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 12.)

My Lord,

Lagos, July 9, 1861.

IT is my painful duty to inform you that Captain Jones died on the 7th instant.

Captain Jones started on a mission to Ibadan and Oyo on Friday last in apparent good health. He was, however, soon after taken ill with fever, and having arrived late at the landing-place, he slept in the boat. This, no doubt, made him worse. He, however, would not return, and on the morning of the 7th was so ill that the interpreter and his servant had him taken to a canoe, and made all haste towards Lagos. Captain Jones died the same evening before reaching this place.

By the death of Captain Jones the country has lost a most promising officer. It will be difficult to get so able a man to undertake such perilous duties as he had undertaken.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. Mc COSKRY.

No. 18.

Earl Russell to Acting Consul Mc Coskry.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, August 20, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th ultimo, reporting that, at your suggestion, Captain Jones was about to proceed to Ibadan and Oyo, to endeavour to bring about a cessation of hostilities between Abbeokuta and Ibadan.

You should lose no opportunity of impressing, not only on the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta, but also on the other Chiefs in the Yoruba country, that Her Majesty's Government have no favour or predilection for one tribe more than another; that they will judge of the Chiefs by their acts, and will consider as friends, and support by their influence as far as possible, those men who give up the Slave Trade, and by living at peace with their neighbours, encourage legitimate trade, and develop the resources of their country.

If Her Majesty's Government have hitherto afforded their countenance and support to the Abbeokutans, it has been because they professed to set themselves against the Slave Trade, to encourage civilization, and, by following peaceful pursuits, to afford a good example to their neighbours; but if the Chiefs of Abbeokuta now continue to wage wars, and refuse to listen to the advice and suggestions of the British officers who have spoken to them in the name of Her Majesty's Government, and have endeavoured to bring about a peaceable settlement of their differences with their neighbours, you should give them distinctly to understand that they will forfeit the friendship and goodwill of the British Government.

It is only by degrees that we can hope to bring sufficient influence to bear upon the Chiefs in the Yoruba country to convince them that their interests will be best consulted by giving up wars and pursuing a policy of peace, but Her Majesty's Government are sanguine that this object may be attained by pursuing a firm but conciliatory policy towards them.

No. 19.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Lord J. Russell.—(Received October 12.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, September 3, 1861.

I AM happy to report that since the cession of this place everything has gone on quietly, and our relations with the surrounding Chiefs are satisfactory. We are, however, much in need of a person at Abbeokuta to look after our commercial interests. There are numerous complaints against subjects of Abbeokuta, and it is most difficult, by letters or messengers, to put the matter in such a light before the Alake that offenders are brought to justice; the country being at war is the excuse given for many irregularities complained of, and it may be so to some extent: but I have great hopes that when the British Government have an accredited agent resident in Abbeokuta, we might succeed in stopping both the war and the evils to which it gives rise.

It is needless for me to recapitulate the arguments in favour of having Lagos under British rule. All my predecessors have found that due protection to property, life, and liberty, could not be secured under native rule; and the native laws and customs, in reference to slaves, are quite incompatible with any great progress towards civilization.

In consequence of the numerous slaves seeking protection here, I have found it necessary to appoint a man to take charge of and to find work for them, till such time as they become known in the place, and are capable of looking after themselves. For want of some such arrangement hitherto, I find many who have been here have fallen into bad hands, and have again been sold into slavery; indeed, it will take some time, and an efficient executive, before such proceedings are finally stopped.

In order to make the establishment for liberated slaves self-supporting, I devote a small portion of their earnings to defray the expenses; and I consider they suffer no injustice in thus providing for their own protection, and in supporting an asylum which will be always open for those of their friends who can effect their escape from the slave-dealers along the Coast.

The questions arising out of the domestic slavery existing among the natives are giving me more trouble than all the rest of the business together. To avoid quarrels with the native Chiefs around us, cases in which the slaves claim protection require very careful decisions, and it is almost impossible to satisfy our sense of justice and the master at the same time. There is work sufficient for one person in attending to such cases alone.

No. 20.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Lord J. Russell.—(Received October 12.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, September 4, 1861.

IN reference to your despatch of July 23, I have, in accordance with your instructions, expressed to the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta the great regret with which the British Government has heard how carelessly the guns, carriages, &c., sent for their defence have been suffered to go to decay through exposure to the weather. I have also informed them that if they desire the support of the British Government, they must in future prove themselves more worthy of it.

The people are tired of the war, and the sufferings they undergo in consequence.

No. 21.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Earl Russell.—(Received November 11.)

My Lord,

Lagos, October 4, 1861.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch of the 20th of August last, I have the honour to inform you that I have on every occasion urged upon the Chiefs of Abbeokuta, and the other Yoruba tribes, the necessity of giving up the Traffic in Slaves and the prosecution of wars of which that furnishes the inducement, if they desired to be friends of England, and to have any claim on her for support.

In this war between Abbeokuta and Ibadan, I have, on every occasion, found the Chiefs of Abbeokuta against any proposal for peace. Lately, the Chief of Ijaye, who was the cause of the war, died, and so far as Ibadan was concerned the terms of a peace might have been arranged; the Chiefs of Abbeokuta have, however, shifted their ground, and declare they are not at war for the protection of Ijaye, as they at first alleged, but that the Ibadans must be driven entirely from the territory they occupy before they will make peace, which is much the same as if a European nation were to go to war for the arrangement of territory as it was a century ago, and has much the same chance of success.

It seems impossible to convince the Abbeokutans that we can be friends of theirs, and also of the Ibadans and other tribes, and they so obstinately refuse any interference for peace that, I believe, the shortest way will be, to stop the supplies of ammunition to both parties, and this we can do without much difficulty, Lagos being the port through which three-fourths of the war material of both sides reaches them. Porto Novo, Badagry, and Palma supply the other part, and a simple notification to either of those places would now suffice to stop the import of such articles.

The continuance of this war gives more encouragement to the Slave Trade, and does more injury to lawful trade than the annual expeditions of Dahomey, and I am convinced that by arguments alone we will not succeed in stopping it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. Mc COSKRY.

No. 22.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Earl Russell.—(Received November 11.)

(Extract.)

Lagos, October 4, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a report from Commander Bedingfeld of a visit he made to Epé, to confer with Kosoko and the Chiefs there in reference to the re-opening of the market of EGINE.

Your Lordship will observe that Kosoko and all his Chiefs are disposed to be our friends; they are very anxious to be allowed to trade to Lagos; and when we have a force here, and a Government established, I can see no good reason why they should not. There need not be the slightest fear of them doing anything hostile to our authority, and they would be a great accession to our trading and farming resources.

It is only by being kept separate, and all intercourse prohibited, that the enmity and feuds between the adherents of these Native Chiefs are kept up. They speak all the same language, and frequent intercourse under our flag will do more to amalgamate the people of Epé and Lagos than the death of either of the rival Chiefs.

Inclosure in No. 22.

Commander Bedingfeld to Acting Consul Mc Coskry.

Sir,

"Prometheus," Lagos, October 2, 1861.

IN consequence of your note of the 17th ultimo, and the conversation we had upon the subject of EGINE market, I started in the "Brune," on Wednesday last, but found she could not get through the narrow channel near Palaver Island, in consequence of the shoalness of the water this year. I accordingly proceeded on from that place, in my boat, to Epé, in the first instance remaining two days; afterwards visiting the market on my return.

I am happy to be able to inform you that I was received with the greatest consideration by Kosoko and his Cabooceers, who begged me to have no apprehension whatever about

their people at the market, as they wished to be on the most friendly terms with the English, and would do nothing likely to offend them. They were all much delighted to hear the news confirmed that we had permanently occupied Lagos, and begged me to forward to the Government their desire to be allowed to trade at Lagos when things were more settled, and assured me they would strictly abide by English law, and give no cause of offence to the Lagos people.

I found Epé much improved and extensively cultivated, the Cabooceer Tappa having one farm of nearly three English miles in extent. This intelligent influential Cabooceer has made an attempt at growing cotton, but failed in consequence of a want of knowledge of its cultivation. He now promises that if we could send him a man who understood a plantation, any amount of labour requested should be forthcoming, as he would see after the work himself.

Knowing the character of Tappa, his fondness for farming, and his immense influence over his people, together with an amount of energy seldom found in black people, I beg to call your special attention to this, as I believe such an opportunity for really a good start for the cultivation of cotton on this coast has never been offered. The soil I should imagine to be admirably adapted; the small quantity of cotton I saw in some of the gardens was growing most luxuriantly.

Tappa also tried an English potato somebody gave him a short time since, and got five good large potatoes from it.

I was detained two days at Epé, as the first was entirely given up to rejoicing at my arrival, and we would not get over our palaver until Saturday. Everybody seemed determined to show us as much honour as possible.

I was requested by the Sherrief Alli to intercede with Kosoko to allow a woman, said to be Sierra Leone, to leave for Lagos with her two children, who had been detained. It seemed that the Sherrief has been in the habit of taking people up to Lagos and never bring them back, so Kosoko determined to put a stop to it; but at my request he at once gave her up, declaring, however, she was handed over to me, and not to the Sherrief. I promised to have her and her children registered as soon as I got to Lagos. Tappa at once gave orders to his people to take them up to the "Brune," together with a handsome present in the way of one bullock, sheep, and pigs.

I left Epé on the morning of the 29th, calling at Egine market. The King of Jaboo had ordered two houses to be built for Mr. Turner. The last market passed off quietly, the only disturbance being caused by a Lagos man: a dispute about some salt, which was soon settled.

I have, &c.
(Signed) NORMAN B. BEDINGFELD.

No. 23.

Earl Russell to Acting Consul Mc Coskry.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 23, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 4th ultimo, reporting that the Chiefs of Abbeokuta have on every occasion refused our proffered mediation to bring about a settlement of their differences with the Ibadans, and suggesting that the most effective way to compel the two parties to come to terms would be by putting a stop to their supplies of ammunition, a measure which you state could be easily effected.

I have in reply to desire that you will lose no opportunity of impressing upon the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta that they will infallibly lose the friendship and protection of Her Majesty's Government if they persist in their hostilities against the Ibadans and refuse to listen to the peaceful counsels of Her Majesty's Agents.

The Governor of Lagos will proceed to his post by the packet of the 23rd of December, and if the Abbeokutans should not on his arrival have come to some arrangement for restoring peace to the Yoruba country, the Governor will be directed to take such measures as may be practicable for cutting off the supplies of ammunition to the belligerents.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Earl Russell.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Lagos, November 10, 1861.

IT having been considered advisable, notwithstanding repeated refusals, to make another attempt at mediation between the Abbeokutans and Ibadans, Captain Bedingfeld last week visited Abbeokuta, and returned yesterday. He has not succeeded in the main object of effecting any disposition towards peace in the Abbeokuta Chiefs, but he has obtained a promise that the communication between there and Lagos will henceforth be open or closed only with the consent of the authorities here.

It had become known that a human sacrifice had been made outside one of the gates of Abbeokuta lately; the Chiefs alleged it was not done by natives, but by strangers living in Abbeokuta: there is no doubt, however, that they were aware of, and consented to the sacrifice. Captain Bedingfeld has obtained a promise that such shall not again occur within their territory.

The best result of Captain Bedingfeld's visit is that he has established a better understanding between us and the Chiefs; he has convinced them that it is through no ill-feeling against them that they have not been assisted in this war, but the settled policy of the Government. The mistake they have made, and persisted in till now, was in thinking that because they had received assistance against Dahomey, the British Government would assist them in any war they undertook, if the Representative of the Government here was only so disposed; the consequence of this has been that any one trying to undeceive them has been considered a personal enemy.

I herewith transmit a copy of the Agreement in which the promises of the Chiefs have been embodied.

I hope, if they only adhere to their promise to keep open the roads to Lagos, the people will gradually return to peaceful pursuits, and render the continuance of the war an impossibility; they have hitherto had great difficulty in keeping a force in the field while free trading communications existed, and the people generally are tired of the war.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. Mc COSKRY.

Inclosure in No. 24.

Agreement with the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta.

IN consequence of the representation of Commander Norman B. Bedingfeld, R.N., Senior Officer of the Bights Division of Her Majesty's ships, the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta express their regret that there should have been occasion for the complaint of their want of faith in keeping the Treaty made between them and Her Majesty's Government by Commander Forbes, in 1852.

They now solemnly declare that the three Articles mentioned below, and to which they have now affixed their names, shall be strictly enforced for the future, and be at once made public:—

ARTICLE I.

With a view of strictly enforcing the Ist Article of the above-mentioned Treaty, the Alake and Chiefs hereby promise to stop the road leading to Okeodou, and other places by which slaves are sent to the coast for exportation, against such export, as far as it is in their power; and they will also punish severely any of their own people against whom it can be proved that they have broken this law.

ARTICLE II.

The Alake and Chiefs also solemnly declare that now and after this date, no human being shall be sacrificed, either by them, their people, or others, inside or outside the walls of the town, or anywhere else in their territory.

ARTICLE III.

It having been fully explained to the Alake and Chiefs by Commander Bedingfeld the injury caused to legal commerce by shutting the road between Lagos and Abbeokuta, out of friendship to the Queen of England they are willing to promise that that road shall never again be stopped on any pretext whatever, without the consent and approval of Her Majesty's Government at Lagos; provided always, that when it is deemed expedient to

prevent the Egbas from going to Lagos, the merchants must provide themselves with canoe-men from that place.

Signed at the King's Palace, this 7th day of November, 1861.

(Signed) ^{his} THE X ALAKE.
 mark.
^{his} APESE X KEMETA.
 mark.
^{his} LEMO X TPOCU.
 mark.
^{his} APISE X ERUNOON.
 mark.
^{his} OKOLOMO X
 mark.
 NORMAN B. BEDINGFELD, *Commander, R.N.,
 Senior Officer for the Bights Division of Her
 Majesty's ships.*
 RICHD. F. BURTON, *Captain, Her Britannic
 Majesty's Consul, Fernando Po.*
 HENRY EALES, *Surgeon, Her Majesty's ship
 "Prometheus."*

Witnesses to the above signatures :

(Signed) DAVID WILLIAMS.
 S. WILLIAMS, *Interpreter.*

No. 25.

Earl Russell to Consul Freeman.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, December 23, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, under flying seal, a despatch which I have addressed to Dr. Baikie, sanctioning his remaining in Africa until next summer; and I have to desire that you will endeavour to forward the same to its destination by some safe messenger.

You are aware from the correspondence which you have read relating to the Consulate at Lagos, that messengers have been in the habit of passing safely between Dr. Baikie and Lagos, until the wars between the Abbeokutans and the neighbouring Chiefs rendered this means of communication no longer safe or practicable. You will, however, use your best exertions to reopen this route, and with this view you will write to the Alake and Chiefs of Abbeokuta, and to the other Chiefs through whose territory the messengers must pass, explaining to them how necessary it is that Her Majesty's Government should have the means of communicating with their Agents in the interior.

You will perceive that I have informed Dr. Baikie that you are authorized to furnish him with such supplies as he may from time to time require.

Inclosure 1 in No. 25.

Dr. Baikie, R.N., to Lord J. Russell.

My Lord,

Lukoja, September 10, 1861.

THE "Sunbeam" arrived on the afternoon of the 31st August, and by her I received letters and despatches, being the first since the 2nd March, 1860. Among them was your Lordship's despatch of June 1860, recalling the expedition, but after great consideration I have ventured to defer my return to England until I can again communicate with your Lordship, and this I have done for the following reasons:—

1. Your Lordship has not yet been informed of the present state of affairs here, nor of what has been done here during the past year.

2. My supplies being limited, and my horses having all died, I was prevented from making any lengthened journey; but as I could not be idle, I tried to take advantage of a seemingly favourable state of affairs, and accordingly made a settlement at this spot.

3. The King of Núpe, the most powerful next to the Sultan of Sokoto, being desirous of seeing a market for European produce here, entered into relations with us, and undertook to open various roads for the passage of caravans, traders, and canoes to this place, which promise he has faithfully performed; I, on my part, on the strength of the general tenor of my instructions, and faith in Mr. Laird's intentions, giving him to understand that it was the desire of Her Majesty's Government to have a trading station here.

4. During our late distressed state the King of Núpe behaved most kindly and liberally towards us, and besides frequent presents, lent us cowries for our current expenses, so that I am now in his debt 70*l.* or thereabouts; and during the very limited stay of the steamer here (eleven days and a half) it was totally impossible to communicate with and pay the King, and it would have been a most ungracious and impolitic act after his extreme kindness to have left the place in his debt, and one which I feel assured your Lordship would not have approved of.

5. Because having secured a position here, and the place promising so well, I hardly feel justified in giving it up without first communicating with your Lordship.

Both the Rev. Mr. Crowther, and Captain Walker, agent for the late Mr. Laird's executors, have expressed themselves most favourably impressed with the condition of the place, with its value as a central position and place for trade, and with the importance of keeping it up, and Mr. Crowther will send his views at length to England.

I have reduced my staff as much as possible. Mr. Dalton is going to England: I have sent one servant to Sierra Leone, one to Lagos, and another is only prevented from also going by his being at Bida, and the leaving of the steamer before he can possibly reach; and I am remaining with only two young men and my native followers.

I have started a regular market here, and have established the recognition of Sunday as a non-trading day, and the exclusion of slaves from our market. Already traders come to us from Kábbi, Káno, and other parts of Hausa, and we hope ere long to see regular caravans with ivory and other produce.

I have arranged with the Rev. Mr. Crowther again to try to open a road to Lagos by Ibadan, and at the end of this month I shall send off a messenger by this route to meet Mr. Crowther at Abbeokuta, and to return with other people.

The step I am taking is, I can assure your Lordship, not lightly adopted. After a prolonged absence from England, to stay another season here without any Europeans, with only a faint prospect of speedy communication, and after all my experience of hunger and difficulty last year, is by means an inviting prospect. But what I look to, are the securing for England a commanding position in Central Africa, and the necessity for making a commencement. I have consulted with the Rev. Mr. Crowther, and that gentleman agrees with me in the expediency of what I am about to do, and in consequence of my determination he has left one of his followers, and his family, in charge of his mission station at the town of Gbebe, on the opposite shore. But I would respectfully request that should your Lordship see fit to recall me another may be appointed in my place, who should have Consular authority, and whom I might personally introduce as my successor, and who would alike represent England here, and at the same time protect the many people who have trusted the white men, and who have gathered round me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WM. BALFOUR BAIKIE,
In charge of the Niger Expedition.

Inclosure 2 in No. 25.

Earl Russell to Dr. Baikie, R.N.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 23, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 10th of September last, reporting your reasons for having deferred to comply with the instructions contained in my despatch of the 23rd of November of last year, directing you to return with the Staff of the Niger expedition to this country; and I have to state to you that, under the circumstances reported in your despatch, I sanction your remaining in Africa until next summer.

Having fully anticipated that you would have withdrawn the expedition by the opportunity afforded by the steamer "Sunbeam" in August last, no steps were taken to furnish you with the supplies which you have from time to time applied for, under the impression that the expedition under your charge was to continue in Africa, nor do I see how it is possible for supplies to reach you with safety before next summer, unless you are enabled to establish a means of communication with Lagos overland.

I have, however, directed Mr. Freeman, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos, to use his best endeavours to open a communication with you, and I have authorized him, in the event of his being able to do so, to furnish you with such supplies as you may require.

I should be glad to receive by the first opportunity that may offer any observations which you may have to make as to the practicability and policy of maintaining a resident British agent at some point on the Upper Niger, and as to the feasibility of forming an establishment for the reception of liberated Africans, either on the site of your present farm or on any other; and if so, what would be the cost of its maintenance.

I ask for your opinion on these points for information only.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

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

No. 26.

Acting Consul Laughland to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 13, 1861.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 1, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the names of three slaves to whom I have granted emancipation, according to the form herewith inclosed.

They are in charge of the Presbyterian missionaries in Old Calabar.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JNO. LAUGHLAND.

Inclosure 1 in No. 26.

List of Three Slaves emancipated by Acting Consul Laughland.

1. ELIZA WATSON, aged about 18 years, native name Afiong, born in Efik.
 2. Jessie Anderson, aged about 20 years, native name Ama, born in Mburikum.
 3. Louisa Anderson, aged about 7 years, native name unknown, born in Ibo.
-

Inclosure 2 in No. 26.

Form of Manumission.

To all whom these presents come, greeting.

KNOW ye that _____, aged about _____ years, whose native name is _____, and who was born in the country of _____, has been this day declared before me, by the Rev. William Anderson, 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 one into whose hands he [or she] may come from again making him [or her] 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 at Old Calabar, this 10th day of November, in the year 1860.

(Signed) JOHN LAUGHLAND,
Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.

No. 27.

Acting Consul Laughland to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 13, 1861.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 1, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 20th October, conveying your approval of the promptitude shown by me in informing

the Senior Naval Officer of the Bights Division of the presence in the Cameroons river of the slave-vessel "Constancia."

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

No. 28.

Acting Consul Laughland to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 13, 1861.)

My Lord,

Fernando Po, December 31, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that King Eyo Honesty III, of Creek Town, Old Calabar, arrived here on the 20th instant on board the steam-yacht "King Eyo Honesty II," of Liverpool, accompanied by a number of his Chiefs and people, and favoured me with a visit the following day.

I afterwards introduced the King to the Governor of the Island, who received him very kindly, and showed him the many improvements being made here, which seemed to astonish him very much.

I beg to observe to your Lordship that this is the first time any King or Chief ever was over the bar of the Old Calabar river; and all returned after a stay of six days, delighted with their visit.

The steamer being short of fuel to take her back to Old Calabar, I made a request to the storekeeper for six tons of the Government coals, which he supplied her.

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

No. 29.

Acting Consul Laughland to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 14.)

(Extract.)

Fernando Po, January 21, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have succeeded in entering into a Treaty with the King and Chiefs of Creek Town to do away with the very old custom of substitutionary punishment, which I have the honour of transmitting herewith.

Lately the Duke Town people killed two innocent persons for crimes committed by two freemen, and immediately on hearing of the death of the first, I waited upon the King with all the missionaries and supercargoes to endeavour to prevent the death of the second, and to get them to do away with that old and barbarous custom, but regret to say without success. I then sent the King a protest in the name of Her Majesty's Government against such an act of inhumanity; this prevented them carrying out their foul and barbarous work for nearly a fortnight, but subsequently they took the man to the bush and there beheaded him. A few of the old Chiefs are only in favour of keeping up the old custom. All the young freemen are in favour of abolishing it, and am in hopes that with their assistance I shall soon be able to get the Duke Town people to follow the example of the Creek Town Chiefs.

I trust that my proceedings in that river, and suggestions, will meet with your Lordship's approbation.

Inclosure in No. 29.

Agreement.

WE, the undersigned King and Chiefs of Creek Town, Old Calabar, hereby engage with John Laughland, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul for the Bight of Biafra, on behalf of Her Britannic Majesty's Government, to abolish without delay in the territory under our care, the old practice of inflicting punishment on the innocent in room of the

guilty, and to use our influence to effect the abolition of the practice in the whole region of Old Calabar.

Dated this 18th day of January, 1861.

(Signed) KING EYO HONESTY III.

^{his}
TOM ✕ EYO.

^{mark.}
^{his}
KING ✕ CAMEROONS

^{mark.}
JOHN EYO.

^{his}
EKPENYONG ✕ OKU.
^{mark.}

^{his}
HOGAN ✕ BASSY.
^{mark.}

^{his}
ESIEN ✕ AMBO.
^{mark.}

^{his}
SAMUEL ✕ AMBO.
^{mark.}

^{his}
ANTIKA ✕ AMBO.
^{mark.}

^{his}
ANSA ✕ EYO.
^{mark.}

JNO. LAUGHLAND, *Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul.*

Witnesses:

(Signed)

H. R. WRATISLAW, *Commander, H.M.S. "Ranger."*

WM. ANDERSON, *Missionary.*

ARCHIBALD HEWAN, *Medical Missionary.*

AFRICA. (*Consular*)—*Sherbro River.*

No. 30.

Consul-General Hill to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord, *Government House, Sierra Leone, January 17, 1861.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that an American-built barque named the "*Clara Windsor*," of New York, taken by Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Espoir*," Commander S. Douglas, in latitude 4° 44' south, and longitude 14° 20' west, arrived here on the 6th instant, and landed in the Liberated-African Yard 612 slaves, viz., 223 men, 69 women, 234 boys, and 86 girls.

2. I regret to state that between 50 and 60 slaves died on board after the capture, before arrival here, and the Colonial Surgeon fears that many others cannot be saved, as they are suffering from dysentery, produced by want of room and ventilation on board.

3. These slaves are said to have been shipped at Cabinda and the Congo.

4. The "*Clara Windsor*" was condemned in the Vice-Admiralty Court on the 15th instant, as a lawful prize to the Crown of Great Britain; when taken she did not show any colours, nor were any papers found on board, and she therefore could not claim the protection of any country.

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

No. 31.

Consul-General Hill to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 12.)

My Lord, *Government House, Sierra Leone, January 17, 1861.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that on information received by me that a vessel was in the River Pongas with slaves on board, the Commander of Her Majesty's steam-ship "*Falcon*" sent her boats up that river, and the officer in charge reports that they found a schooner of about 100 tons, name and nation unknown, aground in one of the creeks, with only her masts standing, having neither rigging nor sails, and completely cleared out; and from the information he could glean, it would appear that a resident named Lefevre, a man of colour, had sold 200 slaves, which were shipped in this vessel and paid for, after which Lefevre caused the captain and crew to be poisoned, when he recovered the slaves and relanded them.

I shall make every inquiry as to the truth of this information, and report to your Lordship the result.

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

No. 32.

Consul-General Hill to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 11.)

My Lord, *Government House, Sierra Leone, June 20, 1861.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, the inclosed report received by the officer commanding the troops from Captain A. T. Jones, of the 2nd West Indian Regiment, at present on special service at Abbeokuta.

Captain Jones's indisposition is much to be regretted, and will account for the non-CLASS B.

receipt of the observations alluded to in his report, which should have formed part of the report now transmitted.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

Captain Jones to the Officer Commanding the 2nd West India Regiment, Sierra Leone.

(Extract.)

Abbeokuta, June 6, 1861.

IN compliance with the orders of Commodore Edmonstone, I have the honour to report that I started from Lagos on the 7th May. I was prevented making an earlier start from illness consequent on exposure in the river and lagoon during the expedition to Porto Novo. I reached this city on Saturday May 11th, and received audience of the Alake, or King, on the morning of the 13th.

Nothing could be more gracious than my reception; and on my expressing my desire to have an opportunity of making a full and complete inspection of the troops composing His Majesty's army, I was informed that it was at present engaged actively in the field, but that in the event of my deciding upon visiting their camps, I should be furnished with letters to the Chiefs and Generals, who would be instructed to give me every assistance for acquiring the information desired.

Furnished with these credentials, I started on 17th May for the camp of observation at Okemeji, distant about thirty miles. Ogobono, the General who defeated the Dahomian army in 1851, is in command here, the position being one of great importance, being so placed as to cut off communication between the enemy and the coast. Here I remained three days, taking every opportunity of making myself acquainted with the various subjects incidental to native camps, their construction, maintenance, &c. From thence I proceeded to Ijaye, about forty miles in a northerly direction, where are the camps of the Egbas and Ijays: the Abbeokutans are an integral portion of the Egba tribe; these two tribes have united against the Ibadans.

I started for camp early on the morning of 22nd May, and rode the entire distance, passing through the enemies' country, who having heard of my intended visit by means of spies, had sworn to sacrifice me. However, by taking this journey, and riding on ahead of the escort provided for me, I was enabled to forestall their intentions, and reached the camp late the same evening.

As the results prove, it is fortunate in other respects that I acted thus, in what might otherwise appear a rash and unnecessary manner, for on the day after my arrival a battle took place, from which it was hoped by the Ibadans some good would result before the "fetish" or charm of the white man's presence could operate against them. During the engagement I took up a position nearly amongst the front rank, and about 300 yards distance from the enemy; I was thus enabled to watch the tactics of both sides with great facility. I was, however, reluctantly compelled to withdraw, my interpreter being wounded by my side in the thigh, my own leg grazed by a bullet, and a third bullet striking the tree against which we were leaning, a few inches above my head. However I had seen sufficient by that time to enable me subsequently to follow all their movements from a spot a little further retired.

I remained at this point until the action was over; it terminated in a drawn battle, with little loss on either side. My visit to this camp extended to the morning of the 29th May, when I retraced my steps, arriving at Abbeokuta on the 31st ultimo.

CAPTAIN A. T. JONES, 2nd West India Regiment, had an attack of fever yesterday, and has, in consequence, not had time to finish his correspondence, as he had hoped to have done.

Abbeokuta, June 7, 1861.

(Signed) A. A. HARRISON, M.B.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Commodore Edmonstone to Captain Jones, 2nd West India Regiment.

Sir,

Lagos, April 29, 1861.

AS reports are still current that the King of Dahomey intends to attack Abbeokuta, I think it very desirable that you should lose no time in proceeding to that place (provided with the Consul's safe escort), with the view of obtaining all the military information you can as to the resources of that country and the means they may have of acting in an offensive war.

For the better guidance of Her Majesty's Government it will be as well that the small detachment from your regiment should be left at Lagos until you are able to ascertain of what use they may be at Abbeokuta in instructing the natives, and also if the authorities there are willing to make some permanent arrangement for their accommodation. Her Majesty's Consul will furnish you with an official introduction to the Alake or King of Abbeokuta.

You will be good enough, as soon as possible after your arrival at Abbeokuta, to inform your commanding officer at Sierra Leone of your proceedings, a copy of which, at your convenience, I should also wish to receive.

You will be good enough to beg Major Hill to forward to England, by the same packet, all the information he receives from you as to Abbeokuta.

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

No. 33.

Consul-General Hill to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 12.)

My Lord,

Government House, Sierra Leone, July 16, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit a letter received from the Acting Consul-General for Spain on the subject of a Spanish vessel seized by the officers of the Government of Liberia, and afterwards burned by Commander Smith, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "Torch."

Notwithstanding the crew have declared their visit to the Gallinas as having been accidental, and their intentions honest, I have received the most reliable information that the vessel was engaged in the Slave Trade, and the supercargo a most notorious old slave-trader and pilot for the Gallinas. The difficulty of getting the vessel over the bar into the river must have been very great, but the idea of having been blown on shore is too absurd for belief, as gales of wind on this coast are unknown.

I inclose, for your Lordship's approval, a copy of my answer to M. Pio de Emperanza.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 33.

Señor Pio de Emperanza to Governor Hill.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Sierra Leone, July 13, 1861.

ON the 23rd of June last, Francisco Milan, captain of the Spanish schooner "*Buena-ventura Cubano*," and crew, presented themselves at this General Consulate, and made the following declaration—

1. That, on their voyage from Teneriffe to Fernando Po, on the night of the 4th May, they were struck by a strong squall, and cast on a reef.

2. On the morning of the next day, the captain put off from his vessel and made for the land to inquire whereabouts they were, and to engage men to assist him in righting his schooner. He was informed that he had been wrecked inside the bar of the Gallinas river.

3. He made the men lighten the vessel, and got her afloat, but found she was leaking, and on finding this to be case he thought to rectify the same.

4. That, in consequence of this mishap, he made an agreement with Prince Mannah to give him tobacco, rum, and cloths to the value of 19,000 dollars, in lieu of 300 casks of palm oil of 80 gallons each cask, to be given within the space of four months, from the 1st July to the beginning of December; the contract being signed by each party.

5. Some days after, the ship of war "*Quail*," of the Republic of Liberia, of the Province of Monrovia, arrived, and boarded the Spanish schooner with sixty men, and desired them to surrender, making them prisoners, and refused to see the captain's papers and his flag, saying they desired nothing less than his cargo and ship. The captain requested to see his commission as a cruizer, but was denied; they, after the manner of pirates, taking, with violence, everything that they could, even to the personal baggage of the crew, leaving them only the clothes they then had to their backs, and divided the cargo among themselves.

6. At this moment the captain of the schooner and his crew protested against this

act, and this protest was witnessed by Prince Mannah, his brother, and the principal Chiefs of the place.

7. Being thus robbed, and, from all they could gather, expecting they would be killed, they went, in company with the brother of Prince Mannah, to Sherbro, from which place they observed their vessel in flames.

8. They arrived here in Freetown in the greatest state of misery, having six ill, two having died on their return.

This declaration was made by all on oath, and they presented their papers at this Consulate in good order.

Mr. Em. Geislinger, proprietor of a factory at the Sherbro, sent me a letter, signed by the brother of Prince Mannah and another Chief, being quite in accordance with the foregoing declaration, and stating that what the captain and crew were about to declare would be the truth.

On observing these facts, I made investigation, and yesterday I received the latest information, and I have been assured of the truthfulness of the statements. I find I am obliged, therefore, solemnly to protest, which I now do, against the unjust, criminal, and piratic conduct of the captain of the vessel of war "Quail," of the Liberian Republic, who has stolen the Spanish schooner alluded to, her cargo, and her equipments. The Liberian Republic not being recognized by the Spanish Government, I think it my duty to address to your Excellency this protest, that you may be acquainted with what has taken place.

I am informed that the Commander of Her Britannic Majesty's steam-sloop "Torch," knowing that the "Quail" had taken the Spanish schooner without any right to do so, recaptured her, and burnt the same. I have nothing to remark on this act, it having thus prevented the Republic of Liberia from doubling her navy.

I have, &c.
(Signed) **PIO DE EMPERANZA,**
Acting Spanish Consul-General.

Inclosure 2 in No. 33.

Governor Hill to Señor Pio de Emperanza.

Sir,

Government House, Sierra Leone, July 15, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of date the 13th instant, acquainting me that the Spanish schooner "*Buenaventura Cubano*" had been seized in the Gallinas river by the Government of Liberia, and afterwards recaptured and burned by the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Torch."

You are aware I cannot exercise any control over the proceedings of the officers of the Republic of Liberia, and you do not attach blame to the British Commander.

It will be my duty to make the British Government acquainted as early as possible with the contents of your communication.

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

No. 34.

Consul-General Hill to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 12.)

(Extract.)

Government House, Sierra Leone, July 20, 1861.

IT is with sincere regret I transmit the inclosed letter from the Acting Consul at Lagos, reporting the death, when in the execution of his duty, of Captain A. T. Jones, of the 2nd West India Regiment, from the effects of fever.

I entertained a high personal regard for Captain Jones, and the service has lost a most intelligent, zealous, and efficient officer by his demise.

Inclosure in No. 34.

Acting Consul Mc Coskry to Consul-General Hill.

(Extract.)

Lagos, July 8, 1861.

IT is my painful duty to inform you of the death of Captain Jones at 8 P.M. yesterday.

Captain Jones left here in apparently good health on Friday last for a small market-place about twenty-five miles distance from this place; thence he proposed passing through

Jebu to Ibadan and Oyo, to endeavour to bring about peace between Ibadan and Abbeokuta. He went by boat, and on the way was taken ill with fever, but he would not return, and arriving at the place after dark, he slept in the boat. He was worse next morning, but still would not return. He took no medicine, although he had some with him, and on Sunday morning was so ill, the interpreter had him carried into a canoe, and started for Lagos.

Captain Jones did not live to reach it, dying on the way. His remains were buried by the side of Captain Foote, to-day.

I cannot express how much he is regretted here by every one with whom he came in contact.

No. 35.

Earl Russell to Consul-General Hill.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 20, 1861.*
 WITH reference to your despatch of the 16th ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve your answer to the letter addressed to you by the Acting Spanish Consul-General at Sierra Leone, relative to the seizure by the Liberian authorities in the Gallinas river of the Spanish schooner "*Buena Ventura Cubano*," for being engaged in the Slave Trade, and the subsequent destruction of that vessel by the boats of Her Majesty's ship "*Torch*."

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 36.

Consul-General Hill to Earl Russell.—(Received November 11.)

My Lord, *Government House, Sierra Leone, October 21, 1861.*
 I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle relative to the Colony of Liberia.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 36.

Governor Hill to the Duke of Newcastle.

(Extract.) *Government House, Sierra Leone, October 21, 1861.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your Grace's information, the report of Commander Smith, with inclosures from the Secretary of State of Liberia, relative to an engagement between a Spanish gun-boat and the schooner "*Quail*" and batteries at Monrovia.

It would appear that nothing further has, since that untoward event, occurred of a hostile character on the part of Spain, but the Monroviens are building batteries and mounting guns, fearing an attack from a Spanish squadron.

It is not so stated, but there can be no doubt that the circumstances which produced this misunderstanding between the Governments of Spain and Liberia are the same already reported by me, relative to the Spanish slaver first taken possession of at the Gallinas by the Commander of the Liberian vessel of war "*Quail*," and afterwards burned by Commander Smith, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Torch*."

It may be a question, the right exercised by the Commander of the "*Quail*" to seize a Spanish vessel at the Gallinas, but nothing, I apprehend, could justify the destruction of Monrovia, without first allowing the Liberian Government an opportunity to explain the grounds on which their officer acted, or to offer compensation in case they did not approve of his conduct.

The proceedings of the Spanish gun-boat in making what was understood to be a friendly visit, and, without any communication on the subject of the cause of quarrel, firing on the "*Quail*," is, I believe, an act without precedent in civilized warfare.

Inclosure 2 in No. 36.

Commander Smith to Governor Hill.

Sir,

"Torch," Sierra Leone, October 20, 1861.

IN compliance with your Excellency's request, I have visited Monrovia and had an interview with the President of Liberia.

I inclose a copy of a letter addressed to me from the Secretary of State, also the documents referred to therein.

Should your Excellency deem it advisable that one of Her Majesty's ships should proceed to Monrovia, I will send instructions to Commander Heneage, of Her Majesty's ship "Falcon," to proceed there at once, or go there myself as soon as practicable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. H. SMITH.

Inclosure 3 in No. 36.

Mr. Lewis to Commander Smith.

(Extract.)

Department of State, Monrovia, October 18, 1861.

THE President has directed me to convey to you his high appreciation of the communication which you made to him to-day, from his Excellency the Governor of Sierra Leone; and to express to you the satisfaction he had with you on the occasion of your visit.

The President is fully sensible of the importance which is to be attached to the interest manifested by his Excellency the Governor for the welfare of Liberia; and he has directed me to transmit to you for the information of his Excellency, copies of depositions and other documents referring to the extraordinary aggression in this port upon the Liberian Government schooner "Quail," by a Spanish war-steamer on the morning of the 11th September.

Inclosure 4 in No. 36.

Lieutenant Benedict to the President of Liberia.

Sir,

"Quail," off Monrovia, September 14, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Excellency, that on Wednesday, the 11th instant, there came to an anchor off this place, a steam-vessel wearing the ensign of a Spanish man-of-war; I immediately, after anchoring, called away my boat and directed Mr. Carney, my second officer, to board her, inquire her name, that of her captain, her wherefrom, whereabouts, and general news, as you will see from the report of Mr. Carney which I have the honour herewith to annex.

Having no suspicion of any intention on the part of the Spanish war-vessel to enter into hostilities with us, I was busy with my men in fishing an anchor from which we had parted our cable a few days previous: we were all busily engaged in doing so when my notice was called by one of my men to his getting under way; this I thought nothing of, as he had come to very near our vessel, but merely thought that he intended only to move a little further off, as the swinging of the vessels might bring them in contact with each other. He stood out about three or four miles, and directed his vessel again for the harbour, ran in, rounded the stern of the American barque "Edward," under charter from the United States, by Messrs. Johnson, Turpin, and Dunbar, merchants of this place, stood up between the "Edward" and myself, and when opposite me, so that his guns would bear, opened fire upon me, throwing first grape, and next grape and round-shot: he happily, however, injured no one on board. Several of the grape struck the schooner, but did no serious damage to her; our bowsprit was struck by the round shot, which carried away our fore-topmast and flying jib-stays, and bowsprit-stays. As soon after his first fire as I could I piped all hands to quarters and succeeded in repulsing the aggression, and drove him off with an impression in his stern and quarters which will indelibly mark upon his mind the remembrance of the Liberian schooner "Quail."

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES LIBERIA BENEDICT.

Inclosure 5 in No. 36.

*Acting Lieutenant Carney to Lieutenant Benedict.*Sir, "Quail," off *Monrovia*, September 11, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in accordance with your orders, I boarded the Spanish steam-vessel of war, requested her name, and that of her Captain; to which they replied that "she was a Spanish man-of-war, that she was just from Sierra Leone, came to see the President, and would likely remain here for two or three days, and inquired the best place for landing," &c.

The Commander made the impression upon my mind that his visit was a friendly one.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MINGO CARNEY.

Inclosure 6 in No. 36.

Deposition of Mr. Mc Intyre.

PERSONALLY appeared before me, B. R. Wilson, Judge of the Quarterly Court of Sessions, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, William Mc Intyre, master of the American barque "Edward," now lying in Montserrado Roads, and being duly sworn by the United States' Vice Commercial Agent for the port of Monrovia and its dependencies, deposed as follows:—

My name is William Mc Intyre: my place of residence is Bristol, State of Maine, United States; occupation seafaring.

Question. Are you commander of the American barque "Edward," now lying in the port of Monrovia?

Answer. I am.

Q. Will you state all the facts relating to the attack made upon the Liberian schooner "Quail," by a Spanish war-steamer, on the 11th instant, in the port of Monrovia, that is, all the facts within your knowledge?

A. Before leaving my vessel on the morning of the 11th instant, I saw a steamer under Spanish colours entering the harbour. Shortly after I arrived on shore the steamer anchored; a boat from the Liberian schooner "Quail" went alongside of her, and remained a short while. Immediately after the boat left, the steamer weighed anchor, and proceeded to sea. A short time afterwards the steamer returned to harbour describing a considerable circuit, rounding the stern of my barque the "Edward," until she ranged between the "Edward" and "Quail." Some short time afterwards I heard the report of one cannon, and then another. I suppose they came from the Spanish war-steamer, as the smoke ascended directly from her. Immediately afterwards there was general firing, both from the fort and the "Quail," and the steamer retreated with full steam.

(Signed) WM. Mc INTYRE, *Master of the barque "Edward."*

The above was sworn to before me, B. R. Wilson, Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.

Given under my hand and seal of Court, September 16, 1861.

(Signed) B. R. WILSON, *Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.*

We the Undersigned do hereby certify that the above deposition was made and executed in our presence.

(Signed) J. J. ROBERTS, *le Consul de Belgique.*
JOHN SEYS, *United States' Vice-Commercial Agent.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 36.

Deposition of Charles Knowles.

PERSONALLY appeared before me, B. R. Wilson, Judge of the Quarterly Court of Sessions, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, Charles Knowles, first mate of the American barque "Edward," now lying in Montserrado Roads, and being duly sworn by

the United States' Vice Commercial Agent for the port of Monrovia and its dependencies, deposes as follows :—

My name is Charles Knowles. I am first mate of the barque "Edward;" my residence New York city; occupation mariner. On the morning of the 11th September, 1861, about 8 o'clock, I saw a steamer steaming in harbour. When within two miles of the barque "Edward," I discovered she was flying a Spanish standard. She came within two cables' length of the schooner "Quail," and anchored: immediately a boat boarded her from the "Quail," and returned. About ten minutes after the steamer got underweigh, and put to sea; stood out about five miles, then bore up, and came in harbour again, close to the barque "Edward's" stern. I saw two of her large guns manned. After getting herself in the range of the schooner "Quail" and barque "Edward," she fired one gun. I saw grape shot strike in the water, near the "Quail's" stern. She still kept ranging a-head under steam, until she got forward of the "Quail's" beam, and then fired another gun. I saw grape-shot strike the "Quail's" bow and fore rigging. The "Quail" returned fire. The steamer then altered her course, and headed out of harbour. The "Quail" fired several guns, and there were several guns fired from Fort Norris Battery. The Spanish steamer made sail, and put to sea.

Question. Do I understand you to say that the Spanish steamer fired into the "Quail" first?

Answer. Yes; she fired two guns at the "Quail," before there was any firing from the "Quail" or battery.

Q. What distance was your barque from the "Quail" when the steamer fired?

A. About four cables' length from the "Quail," and two from the steamer.

Q. Did you learn the name of the Spanish steamer or her Commander?

A. I did not, as I had no communication with her.

Q. Did you take her to be a man-of-war?

A. I did, by her flying the Spanish standard, and her armament and men.

(Signed)

CHARLES KNOWLES,

First Officer of the barque "Edward."

The above was sworn to before me, B. R. Wilson, Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.

Given under my hand and seal of Court, September 16, 1861.

(Signed)

B. R. WILSON, *Judge of the Court of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas.*

We the Undersigned do hereby certify that the above deposition was made and executed in our presence.

(Signed)

J. J. ROBERTS, *le Consul de Belgique.*

JOHN SEYS, *United States' Vice-Commercial Agent.*

BRAZIL.

No. 37.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 3, 1861.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 3, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of some information which has been given me about the blacks of the Brazilian Mining Company (Cata Branca), and Imperial Brazilian Mining Company (Gonga Soco).

Similar information was communicated to the Earl of Clarendon in 1857 by the Secretary of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and is printed in the Slave Trade Correspondence, Class B, presented in 1858, at page 70.

With regard to the blacks of the Brazilian Company let to the St. John del Rey Company, under a contract which it is stated provided for their emancipation at the end of a term which would have expired in 1858 or 1859, Mr. Scarlett applied in 1857 to Dr. Walker, the Superintendent of the St. John del Rey Company in Brazil, for information, and Dr. Walker referred Mr. Scarlett to the London Board of Directors, stating that he had no doubt the Board would be happy to give the information desired. This correspondence is printed at page 81 of the same volume.

Mr. Powles, who is mentioned in the inclosed paper, is, I believe, the gentleman who is in constant communication with the Foreign Office about claims on South American Governments.

There appears to be little doubt that the emancipation of these slaves was designed in the contract made with the St. John del Rey Company; but without seeing the contract, it is impossible to know whether the emancipation is binding on the Brazilian Company. I have no means here of procuring a copy of the contract, but the Board might not refuse to furnish your Lordship with a copy, and give such other information as the inclosed paper might lead your Lordship to ask for.

The blacks of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Company are those who have been lately sold and transferred to a Brazilian merchant, Santos, as mentioned in my despatches of the 24th September and 22nd October last. It is stated in the inclosed paper that there was a stipulation in the contract of purchase made by Mr. Oxenford, the agent of the Company, with the Brazilian Government, for the emancipation of slaves born on the estate. The information given to Lord Clarendon in 1857 was, that there was a resolution of the shareholders at the first formation of the Company for freeing all children born of their slaves. An application to the Board, if your Lordship thought proper to make it, might, perhaps, elicit precise information on this subject; but I think it hardly probable that any acts of the Company have so conferred freedom on any of the blacks lately sold to Senhor Santos as to invalidate their sale.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 37.

Memorandum.

*Cata Branca Slaves (Brazilian Company).—*THE contract for the transfer of these blacks was made in London between the Cata Branca and Morro Velho Directors. The blacks, as far as recollection goes, were hired for a term of twelve or fourteen years, one-half of this period for 2,500*l.* per annum, and the remainder at 1,250*l.* At the end of this time they were to be free. The transfer took place in 1844 or 1845.

The promise of freedom was never doubted, and the deceased Mr. Champion, formerly
CLASS B.

of Cata Branca, and son-in-law to one of the Directors, has been repeatedly heard to say that "if he lived, he would see justice done to the blacks, for that he considered they had been most unfairly treated by both Boards of Directors."

Captain Cotesworth, whilst acting as Commissioner at Cata Branca, established a savings' bank for the blacks, and allowed the best-behaved to work overtime, with the understanding that the money they earned was to be carried to their credit towards the purchase of their own freedom. The value fixed for the price of a slave was 600 milreis, and 400 milreis for his wife. Some few freed themselves at Cata Branca, and others who yet wanted small sums to make up the required amount were eventually freed at Morro Velho. Some had sums due to them, ranging from 5 milreis to 200 milreis, but at the suggestion of Mr. Herring, the system was discontinued on account of the expected freedom to be given to them all at the expiration of the contract. Through the instrumentality of Mr. Keogh, who succeeded Mr. Herring as Commissioner at Morro Velho, the money was returned to them. When this gentleman was in England at the expiration of his engagement as Commissioner, he received a letter from Mr. Powles, then Chairman of the Morro Velho Company, asking him for his opinion as to the policy of freeing so many slaves at once, and evidently wanting him to advise to the contrary. This, however, he did not do, but told Mr. Powles that the Directors were bound to carry the stipulations of the contract into effect at whatever sacrifice it might be to them.

Some person informed the Cata Branca blacks that, at the expiration of a certain time they would be made free; this information they conveyed to the blacks of the Morro Velho Company, and, in consequence, a serious disturbance was anticipated.

Mr. Powles, then Chairman of the Company, felt much anxiety on the subject, and long before the expiration of the time, the Directors of both Companies arranged that that part (term of freedom) should be annulled, and that the period of hire should be extended. The only Director of the Cata Branca Company then existing, was Mr. Robert Cotesworth, and the Secretary was Mr. William March. The former, it is believed, became disgusted with the affair after his brother's (Captain Cotesworth's) death, and the whole management fell into the hands of Mr. March, and he, having no personal interest in it, left it to the Directors of the Morro Velho Company to do as they thought proper, and thus *de facto* the blacks belong to the Morro Velho Company, although there can be no doubt that they are *de jure* freemen.

In common justice to the Directors of the Cata Branca Company, as well as to the blacks themselves, the negroes should be freed. A plea which the Directors of the Morro Velho Company used to justify themselves was, "that the negroes had no voice in the matter, and that although their owners had undoubtedly proposed freeing them, but seeing the ill effects that might be produced, and the bad feeling and discontent that might spring up in the minds of the Morro Velho blacks, they had reconsidered the subject, and altered their minds, and in so doing had not in any way prejudiced the negroes, who had no right to know what had been intended for them."

Gonga Soco Blacks (Imperial Brazilian Company).—It was generally understood and believed that, in virtue of the contract made between Mr. Edward Oxenford and the Brazilian Government at the time of the purchase of the mine, that all slaves born on the estate belonging to the Company, should be made free after a certain period. Mr. Henwood, when Commissioner there, insisted on freeing some. This mine being the first purchased by foreigners, Mr. Oxenford, to avoid any difficulties with the then Government, agreed to certain terms amongst which it was supposed the above was one, and to a certainty another was that the Company should pay 5 per cent. more duty than that levied upon the natives, and the Company consequently paid 25 per cent. for some years, even after the duty was lowered to 5 per cent. for the natives.

No. 38.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 23, 1861.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, December 17, 1860.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 24th July and 27th August last on the proposed removal of a number of free blacks from Ypanema, in St. Paul's, to the distant province of Mattogrosso, I have the honour to state that I have now, after the lapse of five months since I last brought the matter to Senhor Sinimbú's notice, received little or no information from the Brazilian Government. I have lately learnt with surprise that all the blacks who were at the port of Santos have been sent back to Ypanema, and my informant fears it is possible that they may be sent overland to Mattogrosso, as has been done with others.

Under these circumstances I have thought that I ought not to abstain longer from making an official communication to Senhor Sinimbú, and I inclose a copy of a note which I have addressed to him, expressing my hope that there is no intention of sending any more free blacks overland to Mattogrosso, and asking whether the Brazilian Government will now emancipate four free Africans of the Ypanema establishment, who, according to a statement furnished by the Minister of War, have been more than twenty-one years in the service of the Brazilian Government.

I also ask for information about eighteen free Africans who are spoken of in the last annual report of the Minister of Finance as having been sent to the Colony of Brillante in the same distant Province of Mattogrosso.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 38.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Sinimbú.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, December 19, 1860.

WHEN five months ago I called your Excellency's attention in conversation to the proposed removal of blacks from Ypanema to the Province of Mattogrosso, you were good enough to promise me, after a conference with the Minister of War, that full inquiry should be made as to the freed blacks of the Ypanema establishment, and that none of the freed blacks who had arrived at Santos in order to embark for Mattogrosso should leave against their will, or without further communication with me.

Later, I informed your Excellency that I had received certain information that about sixty-four blacks had already some time previously been sent overland from Ipatura in the Province of Mattogrosso, and that there were freed blacks (I was informed twenty) in that number, and your Excellency was good enough to promise me information about these, and about such freed blacks as might still be at Ypanema.

The information which I have up to this time received from your Excellency is as follows: first, a list of nine freed blacks who were among the detachment at Santos, furnished by the President of St. Paul's on July 25; and secondly, a memorandum relating to four of the nine furnished by the Minister of War, and sent me by your Excellency on November 17. I suppose that the four blacks named in the Minister of War's memorandum are four of the nine enumerated in the list of the President of St. Paul's, though the nationalities assigned in the two lists always differ.

I have lately received certain information which has surprised me, that the blacks who were at Santos have all been sent back to Ypanema.

I hope your Excellency will be able to assure me that there is no intention of transporting any more freed blacks overland from Ypanema to Ipatura.

With reference to the four freed blacks who, it appears from the memorandum of the Minister of War, were handed over to the Brazilian Government more than twenty-one years ago, viz., in April and June 1839, and were so handed over under a Treaty with Great Britain "to be employed as servants or free labourers," the Brazilian Government guaranteeing their liberty, I have the honour to ask your Excellency whether the Brazilian Government will now give them freedom.

I take this opportunity of mentioning that I observe in the Appendix No. 46, to the last Relatorio of the Minister of Finance that eighteen free Africans had been sent to the Colony of Brillante, which, if I am not misinformed, is also in the Province of Mattogrosso, and I hope your Excellency will oblige me by information as to the period of service of these eighteen.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 39.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 23, 1861.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, December 20, 1860.

SINCE I addressed your Lordship in my despatch of the 17th of May, on the general question of the free blacks in Brazil, I have had frequent occasion to consider this question further, and your Lordship will have seen by my despatches relating to the

Ypanema affair what difficulty there is in obtaining information from the Brazilian Government about these blacks, and how long some of these employed at Ypanema have been in servitude. The free blacks of Ypanema, to whom my attention has been accidentally called, are only a few some 5,000 or 6,000 detained in real captivity by the Brazilian Government. The same difficulties which have met me in my endeavours to obtain information about them would attend any inquiries that I might institute about any other small detachment; and I feel that the only way of satisfactorily dealing with this question is to take it in the gross.

I cannot think, however, that the Government of Brazil could refuse to furnish Her Majesty's Government with a detailed list of all the free blacks who were handed over to them, explaining what has become of them, whether dead, emancipated, or still in service; and the emancipation of all who have served beyond the term of apprenticeship prescribed by the Brazilian laws might then be demanded by Her Majesty's Government.

It was prescribed by Treaty that these blacks should be employed "as servants or free labourers," and the Brazilian Government guaranteed their liberty. A very important question for them is wages. They have been either employed by the Government in public establishments, or let out to private individuals.

Senhor Limpo de Abreo stated in his note to Mr. Howard, of the 3rd February, 1854, that the wages of the free blacks were designed by the Government to meet the expenses of their re-exportation to Africa. Mr. Howard pointed out in reply (3rd March, 1854) that the Brazilian instructions of the 19th November, 1835, provide that "the produce of the hiring shall be applied either in aid of the expenses of the re-exportation of the Africans or for their benefit," and he suggested that, as re-exportation was abandoned, the Imperial Government should apply the accumulated wages in some other way for the benefit of the blacks.

Mr. Howard in the same note mentioned the case of a free black who was permitted on his petition to leave Brazil, but received no wages, and was even required to pay for his passport.

On the 10th of December, 1852, Mr. Southern recommended to the Minister of Justice a free black who had served sixteen years in the Military Arsenal, and had received no wages.

It seems to me that Brazil may gain much by retaining these blacks as freemen in the country, instead of re-exporting them as had been originally designed, and that the Brazilian Government are in every way bound, on emancipating them, to pay over to them for their benefit a fair balance of reasonable wages.

No. 40.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 8, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 20th of December last, suggesting that you should be authorized to apply to the Brazilian Government for a detailed list of the free blacks who have been handed over by the Mixed Commission Court to the care of the Brazilian authorities, specifying what has become of them, whether dead, emancipated, or still in service, with the view to a demand being made by Her Majesty's Government for the emancipation of all those negroes who have served beyond the term of apprenticeship prescribed by the Brazilian laws.

I have, in reply, to acquaint you that I approve of your making a communication to the Brazilian Government in the sense suggested by you, and in doing so you will at the same time state that, inasmuch as it was under the authority of a joint British and Brazilian Commission that these blacks were emancipated, Her Majesty's Government feel that they are entitled to ask for this information respecting them, and are bound to look to their welfare; and you will add, that Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that the same good faith which the Government of Brazil has evinced in putting a stop to the African Slave Trade will equally lead them to render justice to the unfortunate victims of this Traffic by restoring them to the full amount of liberty to which they are entitled.

I think it right to observe, for your information and guidance, that, as the Government of Brazil has of late acted in perfect good faith in regard to the suppression of the Trade in Slaves between Africa and Brazil, it would be advisable, in any communications which you may have on this question of the emancipated negroes, to avoid, as much as possible, any

discussions which may tend to continue the feeling of irritation which has so long existed in the public mind in Brazil against this country in connection with the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 41.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 23.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 24, 1861.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch of the 8th of December last, informing me of the opinion of Her Majesty's Government as to the sale of slaves by British subjects in Brazil, and instructing me to warn the British Directors of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Company of the penal consequences which they may incur if they carry out their contract with Senhor Santos.

Your Lordship will have already received information from me that the contract has been executed, and the slaves of the Imperial Brazilian Company transferred to Senhor Santos.

I have communicated to Mr. Consul Westwood the opinion given by your Lordship, and have instructed him to make it known to the British house at Rio, who are agents for the Directors of the Imperial Brazilian Company, as also to the agents of another British Company, the National Brazilian, which is thought to be likely to wish to sell its slaves, and to any other parties to whom he may think it desirable to address a warning.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 42.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 23.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, January 24, 1861.

I INFORMED your Lordship, in my despatch of the 17th of December last, that I had then lately learnt that the blacks of the iron-foundry of Ypanema, who were lately at Santos, had been sent back to Ypanema, and that there was some fear of their being sent thence overland to the Province of Mattogrosso; and I inclosed a copy of a note of the same date, addressed to Senhor Sinimbú, expressing my hope that no more free blacks would be sent to Mattogrosso, and requesting information on various points.

I, shortly after, received information that the Minister of War had sent orders for the removal of all the blacks at Ypanema to Mattogrosso, with the exception of three or four who have families; and I thereupon immediately addressed another note, of which I inclose a copy, to Senhor Sinimbú, requesting that orders should be immediately sent to prevent the departure of any free black from Ypanema to Mattogrosso.

I inclose a translation of a note from Senhor Sinimbú, replying to my two notes.

Your Lordship will observe that, while informing me that the Minister of War had sent such orders as I requested, he does not deny that the same Minister had previously given orders for the removal of the blacks from Ypanema to Mattogrosso.

Senhor Sinimbú also states in his note that, of some fifty-nine blacks who had been previously sent to Mattogrosso, there was not one who was free, but that they were all slaves belonging to the nation.

I have, in reply, called Senhor Sinimbú's attention to a statement in the last annual Report of the Minister of Marine, that more than fifty free Africans had been lately sent from Ypanema to the neighbourhood of Itapura, in the Province of Mattogrosso, and to other statements in the same Report that thirty Africans had been sent from Ypanema to the naval establishment of Itapura, and that there was an intention of sending some free Africans to the Arsenal of Mattogrosso. I inclose a copy of this my reply, and I further inclose a translation of another note from Senhor Sinimbú, promising me such information as he may be able to obtain from his colleagues the Ministers of War and Justice as to the statements thus brought to his notice.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 42.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Sinimbú.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, December 28, 1860.

I REGRET to have to state to your Excellency that I have received certain information that measures have been taken by his Excellency the Minister of War for the removal to Itapura of all the Africans at Ypanema, with the exception of some three or four who have families, and that they are likely to leave Ypanema about the middle of next month.

I am informed that orders sent by a steamer that will leave for Santos on the 1st of January would reach Ypanema before the proposed departure, and I beg to repeat to your Excellency my strong hope that no free Africans will be sent to Itapura.

I avail, &c.

(Signed)

W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 42.

Senhor Sinimbú to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note which Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., addressed to me on the 17th ultimo.

The Minister, referring to the information hitherto furnished by the Imperial Government respecting the free Africans employed at the iron-foundry of San João d'Ypanema, and especially to the Memorandum sent me by the Minister of War, which accompanied my note of the 17th of November, relative to the nine Africans included in a list previously furnished by the President of St. Paul's, which I had communicated to Mr. Christie on the 2nd of August, expresses his surprise, after the conversation and correspondence we have had on this subject, at being informed that the Africans who were in Santos had returned to the same establishment in their way to the Province of Mattogrosso.

As regards the four who, according to the Memorandum of the Minister of War, were sent to Santos with that destination on the 16th of July, 1839, twenty-one years having elapsed since their services were assigned to the Imperial Government, which guaranteed their liberty, Mr. Christie wishes to know whether the Government will now restore them to the full enjoyment of liberty.

Mr. Christie further alludes to some sixty-four blacks, who, he says, had been sent by land from Ypanema to Itapura in order to work there in a Government establishment, about twenty of whom are supposed to be in the number of those who had a right to their liberty.

Finally, Mr. Christie alludes to eighteen free Africans, sent, as it appears from the Report of the Minister of Finance which was presented last year to the General Legislative Assembly, to the Colony of Brilhante.

Mr. Christie wishes to know the time of service of all the free Africans comprised in these informations, and expects more complete explanations from this Department about all these men.

On the 28th of the same month of December, Mr. Christie further informs me that it was reported to him that the Minister of War had resolved to remove to Itapura the whole of the Africans from Ypanema, excepting three or four who have families, and that this would be carried out about the middle of this month.

And in the belief that by the steamer which was to leave on the 1st instant for Santos orders might be sent to suspend the departure of these Africans, he requests my interference towards that end, and once more expresses the hope that none of the free Africans will be transferred to Itapura.

Complying with the request addressed to me by Mr. Christie in his last note, I hasten to inform him that, according to information furnished me under date of the 2nd instant by the Minister of War, that Minister has sent most positive orders to the President of the Province of St. Paul's not to allow any one of the free Africans to whom Mr. Christie refers in his notes to leave the establishment of Ypanema; that among the fifty-nine blacks who, according to previous orders of that Minister, were to have been sent, not, as Mr. Christie says, to Itapura, which is a colonial establishment founded by the Government of the Province of Paraná in order to facilitate the navigation of the River Tieté, but to Mattogrosso, with a view to people the banks of the Upper Paraguay, there is not one free black, all of them being slaves belonging to the nation, who at different periods have been removed from national estates to be employed in the works of the establishment of Ypanema.

Upon various other topics of Mr. Christie's first note, I have requested more complete explanations from the Minister of War and Justice, and I hope soon to be able to furnish them to Mr. Christie in a more satisfactory manner than hitherto, for want of positive data.

I reiterate, &c.
(Signed) JOAO LINS VIEIRA CANSANCAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 3 in No. 42.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Sinimbu.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, January 10, 1861.

I BEG to thank your Excellency for your note of the 5th instant, in which you promise me further information about the free Africans who have been employed at Ypanema, and the 18 free Africans sent to Brilhante, and in which you state that the Minister of War has given peremptory instructions to the President of St. Paul's not to allow any free African to leave the Ypanema establishment, and that among the 59 blacks lately sent to Mattogrosso there was not a single free African, but that they were all slaves belonging to the nation.

I find it stated in the last annual Report presented by the Minister of Marine to the Legislature that more than 50 free Africans had lately left the iron foundry of Ypanema for a military colony near Itapura.

It is stated in the same Report that 30 Africans had left Ypanema for the naval establishment of Itapura, and that the Minister of Marine was about to send some free Africans to the arsenal of Mattogrosso.

I would add, with the utmost respect for your Excellency and for the President of St. Paul's, that I have some reason to fear that the list of 9 free Africans among the blacks lately at Santos, which was sent you by the President of St. Paul's, is incomplete.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 42.

Senhor Sinimbu to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 16, 1861.

IN acknowledging receipt of the note which Mr. William Dougal Christie, &c., addressed me on the 10th instant, I have but little to add to what I had the honour to communicate to him on the 5th instant.

Besides the information called for from the proper Departments, in order to complete my statements to Mr. Christie about the free Africans now at the iron foundry of San Joao d'Ypanema, I hope to obtain other information, which has already been called for, about those who were sent from that foundry to the Colony of Brilhante, and to the military colony founded between the Salto of Avanhadova and Santa Anna do Parnahyba, as appears from the reports presented to the General Legislative Assembly in the last session by the Ministers of Marine and Finance.

I shall not fail to acquaint Mr. Christie with what has occurred relative to the removal of those Africans as soon as I receive the necessary explanation from the Ministers of Justice and War.

I reiterate, &c.
(Signed) JOAO LINS VIEIRA CANSANCAO DE SINIMBU.

No. 43.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, February 4, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translations of two extracts from the last annual Report of the Minister of Finance, which refer to slaves.

The first passage denounces frauds practised in the sale of slaves to elude a tax on sales.

The second speaks of the slaves belonging to the nation, and describes their labour as excessively unproductive. It appears from this passage, and from the Table No. 46 annexed to the Report, that the Brazilian nation is the owner of 1,476 slaves, men, women, and children; of whom 763 are males, and 713 females.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Extracts from the Report presented by the Minister of Finance to the Brazilian General Legislative Assembly, on the 8th May, 1860.

(Translation.)

(Page 9.)—THE half tax on slaves is, as one my predecessors has shown, constantly eluded.

This tax, as general revenue, being limited to the municipality of this city, the special Legislation of the Province of Rio de Janeiro, which established a fixed tax of 40 milreis (or 4l. 10s.) in substitution of 5 per cent. on the value for purchase and sale of such property, furnishes speculators with a sure means of fraud.

From the circumstance that this tax is due by the act of transferring the property in the place where the contract is made, the contracts falsely purport to be made in some distant part of the same province, and as the provincial tax is, on the average, less than the general tax of 40 milreis, the infallible result is successful fraud.

It appears incredible; but the registers of the income of the Municipality of this city show that the maximum of the number of slaves sold during the financial years 1848-58 did not exceed 126: the number sold last year was 113, and in the first six months of the present year 62.

Speculators avail themselves of two other means of eluding the half tax:—

1st. By obtaining a written order to sell the slave.

2ndly. By the use of printed papers of purchase and sale with blanks for the name of the purchaser, the price, the date and place of sale, which pass from hand to hand. The latter is the most frequent proceeding, because there are many persons who will not lend themselves to the first. They then, in either case, in order to obtain the cancelling of the entry in the register, petition the police for a passport to the interior of the province of Rio de Janeiro, or to St. Paul's, or to Minas Geraes, or any other central province.

If the slave be sold to leave the city, they have only to fill up the paper which has to pay the half tax in the province; if the slave be again sold to return to the city, he figures as having come from places out of the Municipality, or from the parishes of the interior with passes signed by the Inspectors of Wards, and countersigned by sub-delegates, and with this new paper of sale signed by themselves the half-tax is paid, and it is registered in the Receiving Office.

(Page 37.)—NATIONAL ESTATES AND SLAVES.—The number of national slaves existing in different estates or establishments, according to the Table annexed to this Report, No. 46, amounts to 1,476. On comparing this number with that presented in the Report of my predecessor, a difference of 21 less will be observed. The reasons for this difference cannot be ascertained from the data which the Treasury has at command.

Letters of emancipation have been granted to 21 who solicited them, but it does not appear that more than three have entered on the enjoyment of their freedom.

On the different estates in Pará the number is 127, on those of Maranham 125, and on those of Piauhly about 807.

It is incontestable that the management of those estates does not require so great a number of labourers, and that the expense incurred in keeping them must be excessive.

The gross receipts of the Piauhly estates were in the financial year 1858-59, 3,931l. 10s. 4d., which, distributed among 807 slaves, gives a result of nearly 4l. 17s. 5d. per annum for each slave; which is but little more than the monthly wages of a slave! And from this sum no deduction was made for rent, nor for increase of cattle, whatever be the period to be calculated.

The receipts of the Pará estates during the same financial year amounted to 3,126l. 15s. 3d., which, distributed among 127 slaves, gives the annual sum of 24l. 12s. 3d. for each slave.

It appears to me that it would be proper, after fixing the number of cattle-keepers and drovers who may be necessary upon each estate, to apply the remainder to agriculture on suitable lands, to be furnished to them, on such a plan as may enable them, within a

certain space of time, not only to provide for themselves, but also to pay the value of the land granted to each of them, and the expenses of establishing and maintaining them.

By this means not only should we prevent idleness and employment of the slaves in private works; but their morals would be improved on account of the flattering future thus opened to them.

The estates themselves would be more lucrative, and the partial sale of them would be very useful to the State.

No. 44.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, February 4, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a translation of part of a Speech made in the Chamber of Deputies during the last session by the Minister of Justice, on the subject of the free Africans who have been consigned to the Brazilian Government by the Slave Trade Mixed Commission.

Your Lordship will see that the Minister of Justice announces that the Council of State had, on his application, interpreted the Decree of December 1853, in such a manner as to extend its benefits to free Africans employed in Government establishments. Your Lordship is aware that Mr. Howard strongly remonstrated at the time against that Decree, as enabling only such of the free Africans as served private individuals to obtain emancipation after fourteen years' service.

This Speech of the Minister of Justice escaped my attention at the time, and on lately becoming acquainted with it, I have addressed a note to Senhor Sinimbu, of which I inclose a copy, stating that Her Majesty's Government would be glad to receive an authentic communication of the interpretation lately put upon this Decree by the Council of State, and further informing him that Her Majesty's Government feel a deep interest, as in duty bound, in the condition of all these free Africans.

I am happy to be able to state that the Minister of Justice is giving some effect to the new interpretation of the Decree, and that generally he is granting more letters of emancipation. During the whole of the twelve months from April 30, 1859, to May 1, 1860, letters of emancipation were granted only to 38. I have been furnished with a list of such letters granted from December 28, 1859, to July 17, 1860, less than eight months. The total number is 64, of which 39 are for blacks employed in Government establishments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 44.

Extract from the Speech of the Minister of Justice in the Chamber of Deputies, on the 21st of July, 1860.

(Translation.)

THE noble Deputy for the Province of Bahia, who last spoke, called the attention of the Government to the subject of the free Africans, whom he considers to be in fact slaves, who have been delivered to crafty contractors, when the Government ought to hasten to grant them letters of emancipation. This subject is regulated by Laws and Decrees of the Government. The law expressly forbids the delivery to private individuals of the free Africans who have been captured; and I can assure the noble Deputy that this provision has been religiously observed.

During my administration, and I think I can also assure the noble Deputy that under those of the other Ministers since the promulgation of the law to which I refer, the services of no free Africans have been granted to private individuals.

The crafty contractors have not profited by this advantage; on the contrary, many free Africans, whose services had been conceded to private persons previous to the Law of 1850, have returned to the public establishments. Many others have obtained letters of emancipation.

This benefit, however, could not be complete. I felt myself in some way prevented from granting such letters to the free Africans in the public establishments, because the Decree which authorizes the Government to grant letters of emancipation to the Africans

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who have served above fourteen years has reference to those who were confided to private individuals.

Notwithstanding, as it appeared to me hard that the Africans in the public establishments should be kept in a worse condition, I do not say than those who were confided to private persons, but also than the actual slaves who cannot look forward to any particular period for emancipation, I thought proper to consult the section of Justice of the Council of State, and in conformity with its opinion the Government has given a larger and more benevolent interpretation to the Decree in favour of liberty.

Since that time I have ordered many letters of emancipation to be granted to Africans employed in public establishments, who were until then deprived of the enjoyment of this benefit. I have proceeded gradually, preferring the most meritorious, and those who have served longest; and I have ordered a clause to be inserted in all the letters of emancipation, that they are to reside in certain agricultural districts.

It does not appear to me convenient that they should reside in the city, for more than one reason.

The noble Deputy will, therefore, see that this subject has not escaped the attention of the Government; that something more has been done than heretofore for the benefit of this class of individuals.

Inclosure 2 in No. 44.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Sinimbu.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, January 10, 1861.

HIS Excellency the Minister of Justice is reported to have said, in a speech delivered on the 21st of July of last year in the Chamber of Deputies, that the Council of State had, on his application, given a larger and more benevolent interpretation to the Decree of December 28, 1853, so as to facilitate the granting of letters of emancipation to free Africans employed in Government establishments, and that he had since given many such letters to such free Africans, and would continue in the same course.

Your Excellency is aware of the interest felt by Her Majesty's Government in these free Africans, and, indeed, of the Treaty stipulations relating to them, which confer rights and impose obligations on both Governments; and your Excellency is also doubtless aware of the former correspondence between this Legation and the Imperial Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the Decree of December 1853. Your Excellency will not, therefore, be surprised to hear from me that it would be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government to receive authentic information of the amelioration, in practice, of a Decree which it has considered to be in several respects defective and objectionable; and I would observe generally that Her Majesty's Government, as in duty bound, feel the utmost interest in the condition and treatment of the Africans rescued by British cruisers, and assigned by a Mixed British and Brazilian Commission to the Imperial Government, to be employed as servants or free labourers, the Brazilian Government guaranteeing to Her Majesty's Government their liberty.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 45.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 8, 1861.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 4th of February last, I have to acquaint you that I approve the note which you addressed to the Brazilian Government on the 10th of January, requesting explanations in regard to the interpretation lately put by the Brazilian authorities upon the Decree of the 23rd December, 1853, with the view to facilitate the granting of letters of emancipation to free Africans employed in Government establishments.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 46.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 22.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, March 23, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of February 4, in which I inclosed a copy of a note to Senhor Sinimbú, asking for information as to recent proceedings of the Minister of Justice about the free blacks consigned to the care of the Brazilian Government, I have the honour to inclose translation of a note from Senhor Sinimbú, written just before he left office, the contents and tone of which are satisfactory.

Senhor Sinimbú states in this note—

1st. That the Minister of Justice has lately been granting letters of emancipation to these blacks in larger numbers ; which is true.

2ndly. That orders have been given to the Chief of Police and Director of the House of Correction, not to return any of these blacks from custody to the parties to whom they have been let out, if it shall be found that they have completed the prescribed term of service, but to hold them, in such case, at the disposal of the Minister of Justice, who will see to granting them letters of emancipation.

3rdly. That orders have been given to the Judge of Orphans to furnish the Minister of Justice with a list of the first instalment of Africans freed by the Mixed Commission and distributed by the Brazilian Government, with a view to the complete emancipation of all who remain in service.

Having received, about the same time, the inclosed note of Senhor Sinimbú and your Lordship's despatch of February 8, instructing me to ask the Brazilian Government for a list of the free blacks who have been consigned to them, I have acknowledged Senhor Sinimbú's communication and fulfilled your Lordship's instruction in one and the same note, addressed to Senhor Paranhos, of which I inclose a copy, and the tone of which I hope your Lordship will find in accordance with your wishes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 46.

Senhor Sinimbú to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, February 28, 1861.

THE Undersigned, &c., has the honour to inform Mr. Christie, &c., that the Imperial Government, desirous, as it always has been, to place the free Africans in a more advantageous position, has promoted, and continues to promote on a larger scale, the emancipation of those who having completed the term of service fixed in the Decree of the 28th of December, 1853, are entitled to the full enjoyment of their liberty.

With a view to giving larger effect to the liberal principles followed in this matter by the Imperial Government, the Ministry of Justice has given orders to the Chief of Police and to the Director of the House of Correction, not to restore those free Africans who have completed the time of their servitude, and who for any reason whatever may have been sent to the establishments under the control of those authorities, to the persons to whom they had been hired out, but to keep them at the disposal of that Ministry to whom they are to report, in order that letters of emancipation may be granted them.

And in order that this measure may be generally extended to all who are entitled to it, the same Ministry has ordered the Judge of the Orphans' Court to furnish a list of all the free Africans who were first captured and adjudicated as such by the Mixed Brazilian and English Commission, and who were distributed for service.

The Undersigned has the satisfaction to assure Mr. Christie that the Imperial Government in the performance of its duty, moved by its own sentiments of justice, will do all it can within the sphere of its attributions to better the condition of these Africans by promoting their emancipation and the most suitable measures for procuring useful and profitable employment for them.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

JOAO LINS VIEIRA CANSANCAO DE SINIMBU.

Inclosure 2 in No. 46.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Paranhos.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, March 18, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge to your Excellency the receipt of a note from your predecessor dated February 28, a few days before his retirement from office, giving me information of recent proceedings of the late Minister of Justice with reference to free blacks consigned to the care of the Brazilian Government by the Anglo-Brazilian Mixed Commission formerly sitting in Rio, which will be received by Her Majesty's Government with interest and satisfaction.

I have been instructed by Her Majesty's Government to request the Government of the Emperor to furnish it with a list of the free blacks who were handed over by the Mixed Commission to the care of the Brazilian authorities, specifying what has become of them, whether dead, emancipated, or still in service; and I have been further instructed to state that as it was under the authority of a joint British and Brazilian Commission that these blacks were emancipated, Her Majesty's Government feel that they are entitled to ask for this information respecting them, and are bound to look to their welfare.

I have also been instructed to say that Her Majesty's Government do not doubt, that the same good faith which the Government of Brazil have evinced in putting a stop to the African Slave Trade, will equally lead them to render justice to the unfortunate victims of this traffic by restoring them to the full liberty to which they are entitled.

The instructions which I thus fulfil were necessarily sent me without knowledge or expectation of Senhor Sinimbú's note of February 28. This note, when known by Her Majesty's Government, will confirm their confidence in the intentions of the Government of Brazil and their expectation of a ready compliance with the request which I have been instructed to make.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 47.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Christie.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 29, 1861.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I have to acquaint you that I approve the note addressed by you to Senhor Paranhos on the 18th of March, relative to the free blacks consigned to the care of the Brazilian Government.

I have further to instruct you to express to Senhor Paranhos the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have received the assurances regarding these blacks which are conveyed in the note addressed to you by Senhor Sinimbú on the 28th of February last, a copy of which is inclosed in your despatch above referred to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 48.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 4.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 27, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of March 23, inclosing a copy of the note in which, in compliance with your Lordship's instructions, I requested the Minister for Foreign Affairs to furnish me with a list of the free Africans delivered to the care of the Brazilian Government by the Mixed Slave Trade Commission of Rio de Janeiro, I have the honour to state that though I have not received an official answer to my note, I have reason to believe that some endeavours are being made to prepare such a list.

I have had a conversation with Senhor Paranhos on this subject, which confirms fears that various circumstances had already suggested to me, that the Government will have great difficulty in furnishing the list required.

Senhor Paranhos did not disguise from me that the registers of these free Africans in the Government offices were incomplete, and, as I understood him, even wanting for the first years. This of course itself is a dereliction of duty on the part of the Brazilian Government, which they will be loth officially to avow. The want of proper information in the Government offices of Rio has been made pretty clear by the difficulty which I have experienced in obtaining complete information about the free Africans of the Ypanema

establishment, about whom I have been in communication with the Government during ten months, and I am yet without the desired information.

It is also generally believed, and I fear with truth, that in former years many free Africans let out to private individuals have been sold as slaves by their masters, and that there are high personages who have been guilty of this offence.

The whole correspondence on this subject, of which I gave summaries in my despatch of May 17 of last year, and in a memorandum inclosed in my despatch of the 27th of August last, shows such a degree of unwillingness to supply information and admit interference which Her Majesty's Government have clearly a right to claim, as I think can be explained only by the existence of some strong motive which cannot be avowed. The last note which I received from Senhor Sinimbú, and a copy of which was inclosed in my despatch of the 23rd of March, though extremely courteous in tone, is written in the old style of claiming for the Brazilian Government the best intentions, though their action has been obviously unsatisfactory, and declaring that their own sentiments of justice lead them to do all which Her Majesty's Government desire, and which obviously they have long neglected to do.

In my conversations with Senhor Paranhos and with the present Minister for Foreign Affairs, I have held this language: that Her Majesty's Government wish this question settled, and see no reason why it should not be settled as they wish, amicably and amiably; that the object of the list which has been asked for is the complete emancipation of all those free Africans now serving the Brazilian Government or private individuals, every one of whom must now have served more than fourteen years, the term of service prescribed by Brazilian laws; that Her Majesty's Government give full praise to the proceedings of the Brazilian Government which have extinguished the Slave Trade, and will be equally ready to praise them for a settlement of this question, such as is required by Treaty obligations and by humanity; that Her Majesty's Government have the greatest desire to avoid angry correspondence, and that no good object can be gained by opening old sores and raking up any past abuses, if any such there be, which cannot now be remedied; that the great object is to place in freedom all the free Africans now living who can be traced, and that it would be desirable if the Brazilian Government, while preparing the list asked for, would also consider and frankly discuss with Her Majesty's Government the measures best to be taken for disposing of these free Africans when emancipated. I have told them also that this is a question in which Her Majesty's Government simply call on that of Brazil to fulfil a duty prescribed by Treaty engagements, and that it is not a case in which they can be fairly called upon to trust to good intentions. My remarks were apparently well taken.

In a speech lately made in the House of Commons by Mr. Cave, reported in the "Times" of February 27, it is stated that there are in Brazil 27,000 emancipados who are entitled to their liberty, having been set free by British cruisers, and who, notwithstanding the period of their apprenticeship has expired, are still kept in slavery.

I have found it difficult to obtain any certain estimate of the number of the free blacks in the country, or of those released by the Slave Trade Commission; but I think that these, with their children, would probably not exceed 10,000.

There is a number of others who have been taken by Brazilian cruisers and authorities since the Slave Trade Commission came to an end. These are not so numerous. As regards these, we are not in the same position as with the Africans consigned to the Brazilian Government by the Anglo-Brazilian Commission.

There is, again, a very large number of slaves illegally imported since 1831, and existing in slavery. I am informed that there may be 1,000,000 of these.

Her Majesty's Government have always contended that the Brazilian Government is bound to England by Treaty to prevent these men being held in slavery. This is a separate question, on which I have no instructions from your Lordship, and which I have not raised; but I have alluded once or twice to it in my conversations with Senhor Sinimbri, and I also recited former language of Lord Palmerston on this subject in the Memorandum which I gave him unofficially, and of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch of the 27th of August last.

To return to the free Africans released by the Slave Trade Mixed Commission: what is to be done with them, and how they are to be taken care of, is a very important question to be considered, if 8,000 or 10,000 are to be placed, as they should be, in complete freedom. Re-exportation to Africa has long been given up by the Brazilian Government. These Africans are needed in this country, both for their own labour and for increase of population. It would be desirable to make some general arrangements, by which Brazil may profit, as much as may be, for the development of its resources, and the proper treatment of the blacks be secured.

In former years many of these blacks were taken to British West India Colonies, among others, Demerara and Jamaica; and perhaps Her Majesty's Government may be glad to consider whether some of them might not now be transported to the Colonies which are demanding coolies.

No. 49.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 4.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, May 27, 1861.

WITH reference to my two preceding despatches, I have the honour to inclose a translation of a communication lately made to me on the subject of the free Africans consigned to the care of the Brazilian Government by the Anglo-Brazilian Slave Trade Commission of Rio de Janeiro.

Two subjects touched on in the inclosed paper deserve your Lordship's attention: first, the destination of these Africans when the letters of emancipation have been granted them; and secondly, the fate of the children of these free Africans.

1. This communication points out objections to allowing these free Africans to be sent to a distance from the capital or large towns, where they are within view of the British Legation or a Consulate. The late Minister of Justice, on the other hand, who was liberally disposed as to granting letters of emancipation, insisted on sending the Africans to whom he granted these letters to reside in rural districts, thinking that they would be better there than among the temptations to drunkenness and crime of large cities. I think that there is much reason on both sides; and I think that the destination of these Africans after receiving their letters of emancipation is a very important question, and that it would be very desirable to have an understanding on the subject between Her Majesty's Government and that of Brazil before any large number of these Africans are emancipated. If they remain in Brazil, I think the best arrangement would probably be, to place them, in numbers, in agricultural colonies not far removed from the chief centres of population, with precautions for their proper treatment.

2. As regards the children, there is no doubt that the children of free African mothers are entitled to freedom. This is not disputed by the Brazilian Government. There is, however, much difficulty in obtaining information about these children. I inform your Lordship, in another despatch, that I have requested the Brazilian Minister for Foreign Affairs to include them in the list of free Africans already asked for.

Inclosure in No. 49.

Translation of communication made to Mr. Christie.

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, January 19, 1861.

GREAT difficulties are opposed to the grant of letters of emancipation to the Africans called free, and who were delivered to public Departments and to private individuals. These difficulties are so great that they cannot possibly, through their own exertions alone, obtain those letters. It is necessary that Fortune should provide them with a protector enjoying a notable social position, who chooses to subject himself to considerable expense and many inconveniences in order to wrest any of them from their false position.

Those who consider the great advantages derived by the Government from the services of the Africans, and who know how many fortunes have been made by private persons with Africans, will not be surprised at the difficulty encountered in obtaining letters of emancipation, notwithstanding the lapse of more than twenty years, at the end of which the greatest number of them are still in a condition nearly approaching to slavery.

Time was when the Judges of Orphans, in conformity with the Civil legislation, granted those letters as soon as Africans had shown that they had served during the fourteen years prescribed by the Edict of 1818 and instructions of 1831.

Although they considered their authority as solely extending to the Africans leased to private individuals, and not to those employed in public service, the number of these grants went on increasing. The Government, during the Nabuco Administration, not only took upon itself this right, but also ordered that those Africans who from any cause disagreed with the private individuals to whom they had been confided, should be sent to the House of Correction. By this means the number of Africans employed in the service of the State increased, but the difficulties of obtaining letters of emancipation were doubled.

The advantages derived by the Government from the free Africans being so great, they endeavour to avoid compliance with the Conventions of 1815 and 1818, and the Treaty of 1826. They retain the enjoyment of the services of these Africans, they do not re-export them, and they have found in the project of their localization in different places where they intend to form Colonies an admirable substitute for re-exportation.

In view, however, of the provisions of the said Conventions and Treaty, this right to make such a substitution cannot be considered very clear; but suppose the Government of Her Britannic Majesty permits it, will it be very advantageous to the Africans? and does it agree with the humane purposes of the British Government? Certainly not, in the way in which it is purposed to be carried out.

The Africans, on being sent to those localities where the Brazilian Government proposes to form Colonies, under the specious plea of localizing them, will exhaust their strength and wear out their lives in the most rigorous labour in clearing forests, draining marshes, and opening roads; in short, in the hardest and most dangerous toil, to prepare accommodations, and render lands habitable which are destined for others, and not for them. Placed in those projected Colonial centres, subject to the will of subaltern agents, they will become true pariahs. Their lot, instead of being improved, will become worse, and they will be less protected than at present in the great centres of population.

If Her Britannic Majesty's Government, in admitting this measure in substitution of re-exportation, does not renounce the right to interfere in the fate of those Africans which their welfare claims, let it take cognizance of the contracts and conditions with which they are sent into the interior of the country, and reserve to itself the right of seeing that those obligations are duly fulfilled. Without that cognizance and that reserve of right, there may be found in the projected establishment of the Africans the intention of withdrawing them from the protection afforded by the British Legation, rather than the wish to promote their welfare.

When it is seen, even here in the capital, and under the eyes of Government, that free Africans, who have already their letters of emancipation, are for the slightest misdemeanour sent to the House of Correction by the police, and not by sentences of the criminal authorities, and there forced to work for an indefinite period, what must those be expected to suffer who should be removed to distant places, and be subject to military discipline, under military authorities, in those nucleuses termed "military Colonies?" Does not all the world know that the lot of the Africans delivered to public Departments is much worse, even in this capital, than that of those confided to private individuals? In the public Departments no care is taken of their education: they are only taught the necessity of being obedient; their faults are punished with military rigour, and the Civil authorities have nothing to do with their condition. If this happens here, what will it be if they are placed tens of leagues off, without the British Legation having the means of knowing what comes to pass, and of protecting them?

In order to appreciate the humanity and good faith of the protection given to free Africans by secondary authorities and agents of the Brazilian Government, I call the attention of your Excellency to the children of many thousands of the free Africans who were confided to the public Departments and to private persons. What is their number? Their mothers not having had letters of emancipation, in what condition do those children exist? Do they enjoy perfect or imperfect freedom, or the condition of the womb, their mothers being considered slaves to the nation? Finally, where do they exist? In order, therefore, that so many sacrifices made by the British Government on the score of humanity may not be rendered useless as regards the free Africans existing in Brazil, it will be necessary:

1st. That the British Legation should have knowledge of the agreements and conditions under which the Africans are sent into the interior, and the right of ascertaining whether those obligations are fulfilled.

2ndly. That it should have knowledge of the condition in which the children of the Africans are, and of the number of them.

3rdly. That it should cause letters of emancipation to be sent to all of them without depending upon petitions.

5thly. That the Africans should not be forced to go into the interior of the country, and that only those be sent to those projected Colonial nucleuses who may contract to go of their own accord.

I will now proceed to inform your Excellency about the destiny of the Africans since 1850. In fact, since the Law of the 25th July of that year, no Africans have been distributed to private persons; all of them have been delivered to public Departments, where they serve without receiving pay, and without their education being cared for.

If to all the Africans employed in public Departments wages were to be fixed such as

are paid by those private individuals who have them, their wages would amount to a very considerable sum, because the amount of wages deposited in the Treasury is estimated at many thousands of milreis received from private individuals. It would appear but just that when a letter of emancipation is given to an African, the Treasury should return to him the product of his services.

No. 50.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, May 27, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd of March, in which I inclosed a copy of a note to Senhor Paranhos requesting, by instruction from your Lordship a list of the free Africans consigned to the Brazilian Government by the Anglo-Brazilian Slave Trade Commission of Rio de Janeiro, I inclose a copy of a note which I have lately written to Senhor Sá e Albuquerque requesting that the free children of these Africans should be included in the list, and I also inclose a translation of Senhor Sá e Albuquerque's reply, in which he confines himself to saying that my last request will be considered.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 50.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Sá e Albuquerque.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, May 14, 1861.

WITH reference to the note which I addressed to your Excellency's predecessor on the 18th of March, requesting a list of the free blacks consigned to the care of the Brazilian Government by the Anglo-Brazilian Slave Trade Commission of Rio de Janeiro, I omitted to mention the children born of such blacks who are also free. I beg your Excellency to be good enough to include the children in the list which is being prepared; but I consider it probable that the Imperial Government will have anticipated this request.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 50.

Senhor Sá e Albuquerque to Mr. Christie.

(Translation.)

Foreign Office, Rio de Janeiro, May 17, 1861.

I HAVE received the note which Mr. Christie, &c., addressed to me on the 14th instant, requesting that the children might be included in the list of the free Africans consigned to the care of the Brazilian Government.

In acknowledging receipt of this note, I confine myself to assuring Mr. Christie that it will be taken into consideration.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO COELHO DE SA E ALBUQUERQUE.

No. 51.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 1, 1861.

IT deserves to be noted that the Annual Report of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of this year contains for the first time no heading "Relations with Great Britain, Slave Trade."

During the last year not a single case has been brought to my notice of a suspicion of an attempt to import slaves into Brazil, and I have not had occasion to correspond with the Minister for Foreign Affairs on this subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 52.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 1, 1861.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 31st October last, expressing the regret of Her Majesty's Government that a project of law proposed in the Brazilian Senate for the mitigation of some of the evils described in my despatch of the 24th of September, had not been passed; I have now the honour to report that Senhor Silveira da Motta, the author of the last year's measure, lost no time this year in renewing in the Senate a proposal to prohibit public sales of slaves, and separation by sale of man and wife, or of children under 18 years of age from their parents. I regret to add that the measure was quickly rejected without any speeches made in opposition.

I inclose a translation of extract from the speech in which Senhor Silveira da Motta introduced his measure, and which embraced a larger field than the measure itself.

Senhor Silveira da Motta condemns the possession or the sale of slaves by the Brazilian Government, and directs attention to an approaching sale by auction, lately advertised in the Rio journals, of a property with 140 slaves of the Dowager Empress residing in Portugal. He also speaks of the constant considerable deportation of slaves from the northern provinces of Rio, involving separations of families; and states that since the year 1850 no less than 36,000 slaves have been brought from the northern provinces to Rio de Janeiro.

Another Senator, Senhor Carneiro de Campos, who was the only other speaker, and supported the measure, referred to the free Africans, complaining that many remained in private service, and that those who were employed in public establishments had been designed to remain there for life. Senhor Silveira da Motta, interrupting, called attention to the children of the free Africans.

I inclose an extract of the speech of Senhor Carneiro de Campos; but I have had already occasion to inform your Lordship that the late Minister of Justice, in conformity with the opinion of the Council of State, was prepared to grant letters of emancipation to the free Africans employed in public establishments on the same terms as they are granted to those in private service, and that he had begun to act accordingly. I am able to add, having had a conversation on the subject with the present Minister of Justice, that he shares the views of his predecessor.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 52.

*Extract from the Speech delivered in the Brazilian Senate on the 17th of May, 1861,
by Senhor Silveira da Motta.*

(Translation.)

Mr. President,—Of the project which is now to be discussed, and which I had the honour to propose during the last session, only Article 1 was approved, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th were rejected; therefore, according to our rules, we are now to treat of Article 1.

I am of opinion, Gentlemen, that the project, in its present shape, is incomplete; but even so, I thank God that the Senate has passed this provision, which prohibits sales of slaves by auction, and judicial sales, substituting, for the present system of judicial sales with public exhibition of slaves, written proposals of the Judge of Inventory or Execution. It is, to a certain point, a sort of public sale, but without the public exhibition. The Senate assented to this part, and voted it. For this benefit conferred by the Senate on public morality, I think that honest men, who understand the real character of this anomalous institution of slavery, and the necessity of proceeding step by step, very slowly and prudently, mitigating the severity of the institution, have already something to thank you for.

At all events, public morality will no longer be scandalized by public sales of slaves in Rio de Janeiro, in which all considerations of decorum and dignity are overlooked.

But I find, Mr. President, that in this discussion I may at least reproduce, by way of amendment, an idea which was rejected, but which I now modify: it is that of Article 2, which prohibited the separation of man and wife, and of children from parents, in judicial or private sales, under pain of nullity. The Senate must see that this idea is eminently moral.

But, Mr. President, as this idea of non-separation was rejected in the second discussion,
CLASS B.

I have modified it in order to reproduce it as an amendment, or as a 2nd Article, or even as an addition to the 1st Article, which passed. In Article 2, which was rejected, the separation of children who had not yet reached the age of 21 years was prohibited, under pain of nullity. I would now fix that this separation may take place when they have arrived at the age of 18; this is the first modification. The second is, that the separation of married couples, which ought to be forbidden, may take place when they are separated by Decree of the Ecclesiastical Court.

I ought to propose, as an addition to this project, yet another idea. Even the nation, represented by her Government, is a slave-holder! Well, Gentlemen, would it not be proper that in a State which by law condemns slavery, and which only from considerations of political convenience maintains it, would it not be proper that in that country the Government, at least, should not hold slaves? Meanwhile it is said that the Botanical Garden is going to be the scene of a practical School of Agriculture; this is one of the many utopian ideas with which the public is put to sleep; and consequently the hundred and odd slaves who are there, almost all Creoles, and making families, will be distributed by the Government. Is it a very worthy spectacle for a free nation that the Government should take the mother and send her to one service, and take her small children and employ them elsewhere? Meanwhile all those slaves are threatened with this separation.

I do not choose to offer any more additions, in order to see if at least the 1st Article passes; would that this could be now acted upon! We are now threatened with a great public sale of slaves belonging to the Duchess of Braganza, on an estate called "Macaco," her property. Orders have been received to sell that property; the slaves are to be sold by auction, and they are like those of the Botanical Garden. Almost the whole of them were born at that place; the fathers, mothers, children, and grandchildren are all to be put up to auction, and will be separated.

It being seen that the Government has slaves who are to be sold by auction, like those of the Macaco estate, I think that the doctrine of Article 1 ought to be acted on, in order to prevent this scandalous proceeding; for which reason I do not present any more additions; I do but reproduce the doctrine of Article 2, because I think that it does not present any difficulty.

It is a hardship to grant permission to sell the father and mother separately from the son scarcely 18 years old; it is a hardship, a profanation, and a disowning of the rite of our religion to allow the slave-owner to sunder those slaves who have been married in Church.

I have statistics of the slaves who have come from the north of the Empire since 1850 to the south, and of the daily, monthly, and annual importation of them.

Since 1850, Mr. President, 36,000 slaves have been transported from Maranhão, Pernambuco, Bahia, and other northern ports, to Rio de Janeiro alone, and not comprising the ports of the coasts of St. Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul. This transportation of slaves from the North to the South has already been the subject of a measure proposed in the Chamber of Deputies by my noble friend the Baron of Cotegibe, João Mauricio Wanderley, a Senator of the Empire.

His Excellency carried his rigorous prohibition so far as to compare the transporting of slaves from the North to the South to the illicit Traffic, and to subject the transporters to the same penalties of the last law which prohibited the Slave Trade. This project, proposed, I believe, in 1851 or 1852, I myself opposed in the Chamber of Deputies, for political considerations; but neither that project, which was the preface to some measures taken by the Provincial Assemblies in order to prevent the transporting of slaves, nor the measures of the Provincial Assemblies, had the desired effect.

Bahia, for example, I am informed, levies an impost of 100 milreis (11*l.* 5*s.*) on every slave who leaves that place; no sale can be effected for abroad without mention being made in the bill of sale of this impost having been paid. at least the police does not otherwise furnish a passport. But, Gentlemen, notwithstanding this, we all know that the North is being depopulated of slaves, and that only to Rio de Janeiro, since 1850, 36,000 slaves have come, that is what is officially known.

Senhor Cansansão de Sinimbu.—Without comprising those who come by the interior.

Senhor Silveira da Motta.—Besides the slaves who come from Bahia by land through the district of San Francisco, in order, as articles of commerce, to exchange them for mules at Sorocaba; besides those who enter direct from Bahia into the Province of Minas Geraes; and besides those who enter different ports of the South, conveyed in steamers and sailing-vessels. Many passengers from the North, in order to avoid payment of the impost at the places they come from, bring slaves as servants, who are here sold as a resource of those passengers, because, instead of bringing money, they bring negroes to be sold in this great market.

But amongst the slaves transported from the North (I wish to reply to a remark of the illustrious Senator for Maranhão), I have seen some in the market of Rio de Janeiro, who are children of 10 and 12 years old, have left their parents in the North, and are sold here. I can assure the noble Senator that a slave from the North (I do not know whether he came from Maranhão) told me that he was married in the province where he was sold, and that his wife remained there, and he was sent here. This, Mr. President, is what I have in view to prevent by my amendment.

I have modified my first idea as to the children; I had fixed 20 years of age, and now I reduce it to 18. As to the married slaves, I think that the Legislator ought not to object to prohibit the sale of married couples separately, by their owners, unless they be separated by a Decree of an Ecclesiastical Court. I can understand why the Senate has not taken any steps as regards this question, if it had not been brought on a third time; but as this subject has been proposed, it would, in my opinion, be wrong if the Legislature did not take some measures about it; I therefore also propose an amendment in that sense.

Amendment.—"In sales of slaves, whether private or public, it is prohibited, under pain of 200 milreis (2*l.* 10*s.*) to 400 milreis fine, to separate married couples who have not been separated by a Decree of the Ecclesiastical Court, or children under 18 years old, from their father or mother."

Inclosure 2 in No. 52.

*Extract from a Speech delivered in the Brazilian Senate on the 17th of May, 1861,
by Senhor Carneiro de Campos.*

(Translation.)

I DO not rise to present better reasons than those given by the noble Senator (Silveira da Motta), but to appeal briefly to the Government on account of a fact which I believe is still practised in our country, not in regard to slaves, but respecting Africans, whom I consider to be worse off, and unduly so, than slaves—I mean the Africans who were destined to serve the State.

Some years since the Government published a Decree for regulating the cessation of the labour to which those captured Africans were subjected, and I have heard that many of the Africans who were distributed to private persons are still kept in subjection.

I will conclude in few words. The free Africans who were distributed among the public departments are destined by an order of the Government to serve until they die. I make this appeal to the Government, because it appears to me that a man declared free, and who is serving in the public establishments, cannot be considered as a slave until he dies, thus remaining worse off than those who were distributed to private persons.

Senhor Silveira da Motta.—And their children?

No. 53.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 4.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 3, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th of January, and to previous despatches on the subject of the free Africans removed from the Government iron-foundry of Ypanema in the province of St. Paul's, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note which I have this day addressed to Senhor Sá e Albuquerque, calling attention to a passage in the recently published Annual Report of the Minister of Marine which mentions the departure of fifty Africans in May of last year from St. Paul's for Itapura, and describes this last place as unhealthy and remote from peopled districts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 53.

Mr. Christie to Senhor Sá e Albuquerque.

M. le Ministre,

Petropolis, June 3, 1861.

WITH reference to my note to your Excellency's predecessor, Senhor Sinimbu, of the 10th of January, and to previous correspondence relative to Africans sent from Ypanema

to Mattogrosso and Itapura, I have observed the passage in the Report lately presented by the Minister of Marine to the Legislature, mentioning the difficulties which attend the naval establishment of Itapura, owing to the unhealthiness of climate and great distance from peopled districts, and also mentioning the departure in the month of May last year of fifty Africans for the road from Itapura to Avanhandava, and I hope that I may soon be informed as to whether any of these Africans are free men.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 54.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell—(Received July 24.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 12, 1861.

THE Annual Report of the Minister of Marine gives details as to the number of free men and of slaves employed in navigating the merchant-vessels of Brazil. The numbers given are for thirteen maritime provinces, returns being wanting from three, viz., Parahiba, Pará, and Rio Grande do Norte.

The number of vessels for these thirteen provinces is stated at 15,591, being distributed as follows:—

Sea-going vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Coasting vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,519
River and harbour craft..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,709
Fishing vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,263
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,591

These vessels are navigated by 31,341 freemen, and 13,875 slaves.

In the province of Rio de Janeiro the number of free sailors is 9,129, and of slaves 7,150; in Bahia 9,495 free men and 3,443 slaves; in Pernambuco 3,028 free men and 518 slaves; and in Rio Grande do Sul 2,680 freemen and 1,328 slaves.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 55.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 24.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 17, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of February 4, it is stated in the Annual Report just published by the Minister of Finance that the number of slaves belonging to the Brazilian nation at the end of 1860 was 1,482. The labour of these slaves on various national properties is represented as unproductive, and the intention is declared of selling some of the properties.

Under the head of the Ypanema establishment, it is said that two slaves have been sent from thence with twenty free Africans for the colony of Brilhante (in the province of Mattogrosso), and that some others have been sent to Mattogrosso, but that the number and other circumstances are unknown. It remains to be ascertained whether these others are national slaves or free Africans. It seems, in any case, extraordinary that the Central Government should not have full information about the disposal of national slaves from the neighbouring province of St. Paul's.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

No. 56.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 24.)

My Lord,

Rio de Janeiro, June 20, 1861.

I INCLOSE a translation of a short passage in the Annual Report, just published, of the Minister of Justice, headed "Trafico" (Slave Trade). It is stated that no importation of Africans has occurred during the past year, and that the determination of the

Government has effectually prevented Slave Trade speculations. It is further stated that during the past year letters of emancipation have been given to 110 free Africans. This is a larger number than in previous years, but still a very small number.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. D. CHRISTIE.

Inclosure in No. 56.

Extract from the Report of the Brazilian Minister of Justice, presented to the General Legislative Assembly on the 13th of May, 1861.

(Translation.)

WE have no fact to register of the importation of Africans during the last year. Without doubting that wishes are nourished to recommend such lucrative and criminal speculations, it must also be confessed that the authority has showed itself constantly firm in the determination to punish criminals.

The Government, on its part, does not lose sight of this subject, which is deserving of its most vigilant care.

During the last year letters of emancipation were given to 110 free Africans.

No. 57.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 24.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 24, 1861.

I LATELY mentioned to your Lordship that I have abstained from formally raising with the Brazilian Government the question of the number of slaves in Brazil, estimated at nearly 1,000,000, illegally imported since the importation of slaves was made a crime in 1831, but that I have once or twice incidentally adverted to it, and to the views of Her Majesty's Government as to the obligations of Brazil about these slaves, as recorded in former notes and despatches.

Advertisements continually appear in the Rio journals for the sale of slaves, African born, with a declaration of age, which, if true, renders obvious or probable their importation since 1831. I lately collected a few of these advertisements from the journals of three or four days, and directed inquiries to be made about the slaves advertised.

Senhor Sá e Albuquerque having lately given me an opening for alluding to this subject, I mentioned to him the advertisements and the cases about which I had caused inquiry to be made. He stated that the police were always on the look-out for such advertisements, and that the slave-sellers had an interest in representing the slaves as younger than they really were.

I replied to this last observation, that by giving an age from which importation since 1831 was to be concluded, the sellers were incurring danger of criminal proceedings, if the police did their duty.

Senhor Sá e Albuquerque, however, did not seek to deny the responsibility of the Brazilian Government as to slaves imported since 1831, and he encouraged me to place in his hands a minute of the information contained in the inclosed Report.

I called his attention at the same time to an advertisement in the leading Rio newspaper of the 19th instant, of which I inclose a copy, for the sale of forty-five slaves, among whom those marked with a cross in the inclosed copy are, some of them certainly, and all probably, illegal importations, viz., Nos. 15, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 28, and 36.

I explained to Senhor Sá e Albuquerque that I made these observations and gave this information unofficially, and that I did not undertake to keep him informed of evidence furnished by the Rio newspapers of probable infraction of Brazilian laws made in execution of a Treaty with Great Britain.

The Slave Trade Correspondence, Class B, furnishes instances of official communications made by my predecessors to the Brazilian Government in similar cases.

No. 58.

Mr. Christie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 6.)

(Extract.)

Rio de Janeiro, June 26, 1861.

IN an article lately published in the "Quarterly Review," on the Brazilian Empire, occurs the following passage on slavery in Brazil:—

"The condition of slaves in Brazil is highly creditable to the country. Almost all

agricultural and manufacturing industry had long been based on slavery and the Slave Trade. Doubtless, since the Traffic with Africa has ceased, the selfish motive for taking care of the slave has increased with his commercial value. But in Brazil the elevation of the negro race is progressive. The facilities for the purchase of freedom are great, and, when emancipated, if he should possess the requisite qualifications, there is scarcely an office in the State to which a liberated negro may not reasonably aspire. So, too, in private life, if an individual of African descent possesses merit, he will command respect. By the Brazilian Law, a slave can at any time appear before a magistrate, have his price fixed, and purchase his freedom; and many instances are related of free Africans having advanced themselves to considerable social positions.

"The moral aspect of slavery as it still exists in Brazil is in striking contrast to that of the United States. In the one it is an admitted evil, to be got rid of as speedily as practicable; in the other, it is an 'institution,' identified, in the opinion of a large party, with the interests and prosperity of the country. It is probable that, before many generations have passed away, slavery will cease to exist in Brazil; it exists now in a very mitigated form."

There are errors in this statement which your Lordship will probably be glad to have pointed out.

1. It is not correct to state that a negro, the moment he is emancipated, may aspire to any office in the State. Emancipated slaves are expressly excluded by the Brazilian Constitution from the right of voting for Deputies, Senators, and Members of Provincial Councils. Their sons, born free, have the full advantages of Brazilian citizenship.

2. There is no such law, as is stated by the reviewer, giving the slave a right to appear at any time before a magistrate, have his price fixed, and buy his freedom. This is a complete mistake.

3. Slavery may be, and I believe is, with a considerable number of enlightened and respectable men in Brazil, "an admitted evil;" but, as your Lordship will have learnt from previous reports of mine, there are no signs whatever at present in Brazil of abolition of slavery, and there is no disposition, even, to entertain measures for mitigating its acknowledged evils, or for preparing for ultimate abolition. And slavery in Brazil certainly is, what the reviewer says that it is not, "an 'institution,' identified, in the opinion of a large party, with the interests and prosperity of the country."

It would not certainly be inferred, from the reviewer's account of slavery in Brazil, that there are more than 3,000,000 of slaves in a population of from 7,000,000 to 7,500,000, any more than it could be inferred from the flattering accounts in the review, and in the American work which I have alluded to, of the climate of Rio de Janeiro (making no mention of yellow fever) that Rio is annually scourged for four or five months by this deadly disease.

4. I believe, so far as I have been able to learn, that there is not much to complain of, generally, in the treatment of slaves. Though there is no strong and excited anti-slavery party, as in the United States, there are individuals of position, in both Chambers, friends of emancipation, and one of the leading journals in Rio is always ready to denounce ill-treatment of slaves. There is no doubt, as is stated by the reviewer, that colour is no obstacle to advancement, and the free-born son of an emancipated slave may attain to any position if he has merits and abilities, and fortune favours him; but I do not know what is meant by saying that slavery "exists in a very mitigated form."

I have thought it desirable to lay before your Lordship the above corrections, on a subject on which the English public feels a lively interest, of an article which might mislead. There is much to commend in the recent progress of Brazil, and there is much to hope for her future; but praise undeserved is false friendship, and it is better that the truth should be known.

BRAZIL. (Consular)—Bahia.

No. 59.

Consul Morgan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 6, 1861.)

My Lord,

Bahia, December 31, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the half-yearly return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 59.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

Description.	For the half-year ending June 30, 1860.				For the half-year ending December 31, 1860.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
African Males	1,500\$	...	156 5 0	...	1,200\$	...	130 0 0
„ Females	1,200\$	...	125 0 0	...	1,000\$	...	108 6 8
Creole Males	1,200\$	...	125 0 0	...	1,000\$	...	108 6 8
„ with profession	2,000\$	...	208 6 4	...	1,500\$	...	162 10 0
„ Females	800\$ to 1,000\$		83 6 8 to 104 3 4		600\$ to 800\$		65 0 0 to 86 13 4	

N.B.—The frightful drought in the interior which has now existed nearly two years, and caused a famine, has obliged many families to dispose of their household slaves at any price; and upwards of 2,700 were thus disposed of and exported to Rio de Janeiro.

British Consulate, Bahia, December 31, 1860.

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

No. 60.

Consul Morgan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 3.)

My Lord,

Bahia, June 30, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the half-yearly return of the prices of slaves in this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN MORGAN, Jun.

Inclosure in No. 60.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Consulate of Bahia, at the respective times undermentioned.

	For the half-year ending December 31, 1860.			For the half-year ending June 30, 1861.		
	Currency.		Sterling.	Currency.		Sterling.
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.
African Males	1,200\$000		130 0 0	} No alteration in prices.		
„ Females	1,000 000		108 6 8			
Creole Males	1,000 000		108 6 8			
„ with profession	1,500 000		162 10 0			
„ Females	600\$ to 800\$		65 0 0 to 86 13 4			

British Consulate, Bahia, June 30, 1861.

(Signed)

JOHN MORGAN, Jun., *Consul.*

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pará*.

No. 61.

Consul Vredenburg to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord,

Pará, July 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that there has been no change in the prices of slaves since the date of my last Return. The exportation of slaves to the Southern Provinces has latterly been discontinued, and no attempt has been made to revive the African Slave Trade.

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

BRAZIL. (*Consular*)—*Pernambuco.*

No. 62.

Consul Cowper to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 11.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, January 7, 1861.

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 31st ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

No. 63.

Consul Cowper to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 11.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, January 14, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship the half-yearly Return of the prices of slaves at this Consulate, and from the Vice-Consulates named in the margin.*

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 63.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the limits of the British Consulate at Pernambuco, during the Half-year ending December 31, 1860.

	Currency.		Sterling.						
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
African Males	1,500,000	to 1,800,000	162	10	0	to	195	0	0
„ Females	1,200 000	1,500 000	130	0	0		162	10	0
Creole Males	1,600 000	1,800 000	173	6	8		195	0	0
„ „ with trades	1,800 000	2,000 000	195	0	0		216	13	4
„ Females	1,500 000	1,600 000	162	10	0		173	6	8
Children above 5 years of age	400 000	600 000	43	6	8		65	0	0
Infants under 5 years	250 000	500 000	27	1	8		54	3	4

Exchange calculated at 26*d.*

British Consulate, Pernambuco, January 1, 1861.

(Signed) H. AUGUSTUS COWPER, *Consul.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 63.

HALF-YEARLY Return of the Prices of Slaves within the limits of the British Vice-Consulate at Maceio, in the Province of Alagoas.

Description.	Prices in Currency.		Exchange.	Sterling.			Remarks.
	Reis.			£	s.	d.	
African Males	1,200	000	27	135	0	0	Offered for sale.
" Females	1,000	000	27	113	5	0	Ditto.
Creole Males, with trades	1,600	000	27	180	0	0	Ditto.
" " without trades	1,200	000	27	135	0	0	Ditto.
" Females	1,000	000	27	113	5	0	Ditto.
Children from 1 to 5 years of age	500	000	27	56	12	6	In request.
" from 6 to 12 years of age	1,000	000	27	113	5	0	Ditto.

British Vice-Consulate, Maceio, December 31, 1860.

(Signed)

H. EDWIN GRIESBACH, Vice-Consul.

Inclosure 3 in No. 63.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Vice-Consulate of Paraiba, during the Half-year ended December 15, 1860.

Description.	During the half-year ending June 15, 1860.				During the Half-year ending December 15, 1860.			
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.	
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.				
African Males	1,400\$	to 1,800\$	151	13 4	to 195	0	0	No alteration in value, but owing to the great scarcity and want of money some sales have been effected at reduced rates.
" Females	1,400\$	1,600\$	151	13 4	173	6	8	
Creole Males	1 600\$	1,800\$	173	6 8	195	0	0	
" " with trades	1,600\$	2,000\$	173	6 8	216	13	4	
" Females	1,400\$	1,800\$	151	13 4	195	0	0	
Children above 6 years	400\$	800\$	43	6 8	86	13	4	
Infants under 6 years	300\$	400\$	32	10 0	43	6	8	

Exchange at 26d.

British Vice-Consulate, Paraiba, December 15, 1860.

(Signed)

ROBERT J. SHALDERS, Vice-Consul.

No. 64.

Consul Cowper to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 9.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, January 25, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a Return of the average prices of slaves at the port of Ceará during the half-year ending the 31st December last.

I also inclose to your Lordship a despatch for the Board of Trade, containing transcript from the ship's register at the port of Ceará during the past year.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

H. AUGUSTUS COWPER.

Inclosure in No. 64.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the Vice-Consulate of Ceará, during the Half-year ending December 31, 1860.

	Currency.		Sterling.				Remarks.		
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£		s.	d.
African Males .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	None are offered for sale. But very few are now to be seen in Ceará.	
" Females .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Creole Males	1,000	to 1,300	116	17	6	to 138	2		6
" " with trades	1,300	000	138	2	6	170	0		0
" Females	1,100	000	116	17	6	138	2		6
Infants (sucking to 5 years)	200	000	21	5	0	63	15		0
Children (5 to 12 years)	600	000	63	15	0	106	5	0	

British Vice-Consulate, Ceará, December 31, 1860.

(Signed)

J. W. STUDART, Vice-Consul.

No. 65.

Acting Consul Gollan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, August 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that no overt act of Slave Trade has taken place within the limits of the Consulate during the half-year ending the 30th June last.

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

No. 66.

Acting Consul Gollan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, August 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship Returns of the average prices of slaves within this province and the province of Paraiba during the half-year ending the 30th June last.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 66.

RETURN of the Average Prices of Slaves within the District of the Province of Pernambuco, during the Half-year ending June 30, 1861.

	Currency.		Sterling.				Remarks.		
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£		s.	d.
African Males	1,500,000	to 1,800,000	162	10	0	to 195	0	0	No alteration in value since last Return.
„ Females	1,200 000	1,500 000	130	0	0	162	10	0	
Creole Males	1,600 000	1,800 000	173	6	8	195	0	0	
„ „ with trades .	1,800 000	2,000 000	195	0	0	216	13	4	
„ Females	1,500 000	1,600 000	162	10	0	173	6	8	
Infants (from birth to 5 years)	400 000	600 000	43	6	8	65	0	0	
Children (from 5 to 14 years)	500 000	1,700 000	54	3	4	184	3	4	

Average rate of exchange 26*d.* per milreis.

British Consulate, Pernambuco, June 30, 1861.

(Signed) ALEX. GOLLAN, Acting Consul.

Inclosure 2 in No. 66.

RETURN of the Prices of Slaves within the District of the British Vice-Consulate, Paraiba, during the Half-year ending June 15, 1861.

	During the half-year ending December 15, 1860.				During the half-year ending June 15, 1861.				
	Currency.		Sterling.		Currency.		Sterling.		
	Reis.	Reis.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
African Males	1,400\$	to 1,800\$	151	13	4	to 195	0	0	No alteration in value, but owing to the great want of money, sales have been made at a reduction of 20 per cent.
„ Females	1,400\$	1,600\$	151	13	4	173	6	8	
Creole Males	1,600\$	1,800\$	173	6	8	195	0	0	
„ „ with trades ..	1,600\$	2,000\$	173	6	8	216	13	4	
„ Females	1,400\$	1,800\$	151	13	4	195	0	0	
Children above 5 years ..	400\$	800\$	43	6	8	86	13	4	
Infants under 5 years ..	300\$	400\$	32	10	0	43	6	8	

Exchange 26*d.* per milreis.

British Vice-Consulate, Paraiba, June 16, 1861.

(Signed) ROBERT J. SHALDERS, Consul.

No. 67.

Acting Consul Gollan to Earl Russell.—(Received November 4.)

My Lord,

Pernambuco, October 12, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that no overt act of Slave Trade has taken place within the limits of this Consulate, or the adjoining Vice-Consulates, during the quarter ending the 30th ultimo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. GOLLAN.

BRAZIL. (Consular)—Rio Grande do Sul.

No. 68.

Consul Vereker to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 23, 1861.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1860.

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. 68.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, during the Six Months ending December 31, 1860, 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, 1860.		December 31, 1860.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>						
Males	1,100\$000	119 3 4	1,200\$000	130 0 0	10 16 8	
Females	1,050 000	113 15 0	1,200 000	130 0 0	16 5 0	
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males	1,250 000	135 8 4	1,400 000	151 13 4	16 5 0	
Females	1,200 000	130 0 0	1,250 000	135 8 4	5 8 4	
<i>Mining</i>	None.					
<i>Newly Imported</i> ..	None.					

Exchange at 26d. per milreis.

British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, December 31, 1860.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER, Consul.

No. 69.

Consul Vereker to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, July 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that I have received no information of the landing of African negroes on the coast of this Consular district during the twelve-monthly period ended this day, nor have I any reason to suppose that attempts to renew the abominable traffic in this locality are contemplated.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. P. VEREKER.

No. 70.

Consul Vereker to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 3.)

My Lord,

Rio Grande do Sul, July 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a Return showing the average prices of slaves in this province during the six months ended the 30th ultimo.

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

Inclosure in No. 70.

RETURN showing the Average Prices of Slaves in the Province of Rio Grande do Sul, during the Six Months ending June 30, 1861, 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, 1860.		June 30, 1861.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Currency.	Sterling.	Currency.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.
	Reis.	£ s. d.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
<i>Agricultural.</i>						
Males	1,200,000	130 0 0	1,200,000	130 0 0		
Females	1,200 000	130 0 0	1,200 000	130 0 0		
<i>Domestic.</i>						
Males	1,400 000	151 13 4	1,400 000	151 13 4		
Females	1,250 000	135 8 4	1,250 000	135 8 4		
<i>Mining</i>	None.					
<i>Newly Imported</i> ..	None.					

Exchange at 26*d.* per milreis.

British Consulate, Rio Grande do Sul, July 1, 1861.

(Signed)

H. P. VEREKER, *Consul.*

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

No. 71.

Consul Westwood to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 6.)

My Lord, *Rio de Janeiro, January 2, 1861.*
 I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a Return showing the price of slaves in this province during the six months ending on the 31st ultimo.

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

Inclosure in No. 71.

PAPER showing the Price of Slaves in the Province of Rio de Janeiro during the Half-year ending on December 31, 1860, as far as can be ascertained by Her Majesty's Consul at Rio de Janeiro.

Class of Slaves.	Prices of Slaves.				Price of Slaves as per last Return, in Sterling.				
	In Currency.		In Sterling.						
	Reis.	Reis.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
<i>Agricultural.</i>									
Males	1,000 000	to 1,800 000	112 10 0	to 202 10 0	129 0 0	to 216 13 4			
Females	1,000 000	1,500 000	112 10 0	168 15 0	108 6 8	162 10 0			
<i>Mining.</i>									
Males	} About the same as Agricultural.								
Females									
<i>Domestic.</i>									
Males	1,200 000	2,000 000	135 0 0	225 0 0	129 0 0	216 13 4			
Females	1,000 000	1,800 000	112 10 0	202 10 0	106 6 8	195 0 0			
<i>Newly Imported.</i>									
Males	} None landed within the District of this Consulate during the last six months.								
Females									

British Consulate, Rio de Janeiro, January 2, 1861.

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

COMORO ISLANDS.

No. 72.

Lord J. Russell to Consul Sunley.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch from Colonel Rigby, Her Majesty's Agent and Consul at Zanzibar,* reporting that the Traffic in Slaves at the Comoro Islands, which was formerly carried on by French Agents under the African Emigration Scheme until prohibited by the Imperial Government in January 1859, has been again resumed by French vessels.

I have to desire that you will inform me whether there is any foundation for this report; and if not, whether you are aware of any circumstances that could have given rise to the report contained in Colonel Rigby's despatch.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 73.

Consul Sunley to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 15.)

My Lord,

Johanna, May 2, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that, last month, the French schooner "Antancar" put into Johanna for water, with 40 Africans on board.

The owner of the vessel informed me that he had engaged these people at the Island of Comoro to work on his sugar estate at Nossi Bé; but a Johannaman, who served in the vessel as interpreter, told me that they were bought at Quiloa for the sum of 25 dollars each, and that the vessel called at Comoro for the purpose of procuring a certificate of their having been embarked at that island, and that this was obtained from one of the Chiefs for the sum of 250 dollars.

The Island of Nossi Bé is quite close to Madagascar; its population consists chiefly of Sakalaves, Betsimsarikas, and other tribes in Madagascar, who have sought a refuge there from the raids and tyranny of the Hovas. These people prefer rearing cattle and growing rice to working upon estates; and the Government gave up the idea of compelling them to work for a term of years on finding that they were preparing to go to the mainland of Madagascar, where they have their paddy plantations. The labourers on the estates are Africans who have been bought from slavery; but there are not nearly as many as are wanted by the planters, who have no other way of getting more than by purchasing slaves.

Two thousand labourers are required to satisfy the immediate wants of the Colonies of Mayotte and Nossi Bé; and I expect that an active Slave Trade will be carried on between the Comoro Islands and the Coast of Africa, if slaves can be introduced into these Colonies as inhabitants of the Comoro Islands.

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

* Inclosure in No. 96.

No. 74.

Earl Russell to Consul Sunley.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 19, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of a despatch, and its inclosure, from the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which have been communicated to me by the Duke of Newcastle, calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the fact that you are in the habit of employing 500 slaves on your sugar plantations whom you hire from the Arab slave-holders in the island; and I have to state to you that I should be glad to receive any explanations which you may have to offer upon this subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 74.

Sir G. Grey to the Duke of Newcastle.

My Lord Duke,

Cape Town, June 18, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, the copy of a letter I have received from Mr. H. Hutton, a Government officer in this Colony, calling attention to the fact that, upon his visiting the Island of Johanna in February and March of this year, he found that the British Consul was in the habit of employing upon his sugar plantations 500 slaves, hired from the Arab slave-holders in that island.

I request that your Grace, in bringing this communication under the notice of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, will inform his Lordship that whilst I am unaware of the nature of the regulations which the Foreign Office have laid down for the guidance of Her Majesty's Consuls in relation to the employment of slaves, I think it right to inform his Lordship that Mr. Hutton is an officer of principle and probity upon whose statements I should place most entire reliance.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 74.

Mr. Hutton to the Acting Colonial Secretary, Cape Town.

Sir,

Graham's Town, May 25, 1861.

UPON occasion of my visits to Johanna in February and March of this year, my attention was particularly attracted to a subject which appeared to me to be of so much importance as to call for representation to Her Majesty's Ministry; and not having had an opportunity of making, as I had intended, a verbal communication to his Excellency the Governor when I was lately in Cape Town, I beg now to bring the circumstance to his notice for the purpose of receiving his consideration, and being submitted to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if he should concur in the opinions which I have expressed.

Johanna, one of the Comoro group of islands, is a rendezvous of Her Majesty's cruizers upon the East Coast of Africa, and is the seat of a British Consulate. The Consulate-house is at the town of Johanna, on the north side of the island, but the Consul resides at Pomone, a small harbour on the west of the island, where he has a sugar plantation and factory.

The circumstance to which I am desirous of drawing his Excellency's attention is, that upon this plantation the Consul employs slave-labour—a proceeding which appears to me to be wholly at variance with the objects of his appointment, and to implicate the British Government to some extent in the maintenance of slavery.

At the time of my visit, the Consul (Mr. Sunley) had 500 slaves at work on his plantation, whose labour he hired from the Arabian slave-owners in the island.

It is true that the island is not a British Settlement, and that our Treaty with the King is only for the suppression of Slave Trade, that is, the importation and deportation of slaves, and that thus the state of slavery in his kingdom is recognized. But I think it

CLASS B.

is evident that by opening a market for the profitable employment of slave labour, a stimulus is actually given to Slave Trade, and the strongest inducement furnished for eluding the stipulations of the Treaty, and surreptitiously importing slaves from the African coast.

This is easily done by sending dhows to the coast with a small crew, and there completing the crew to the number allowed by Treaty. The importation can thus be kept up by small drafts without the British cruisers having the power to interfere with it; and that this system is, under existing circumstances, actually carried on, I think that there cannot be a reasonable doubt.

Her Majesty's Ministers would surely disapprove of their Consul thus indirectly encouraging a Trade which it should be his most earnest endeavour to suppress by all legitimate means; and I trust that his Excellency, concurring in this view, will bring the subject to their notice.

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

No. 75.

Earl Russell to Consul Sunley.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 5, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, copies of a despatch, and its inclosure, from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris,* containing the reply of the French Government to a representation which I instructed Lord Cowley to make to that Government, relative to the proceedings, reported in your despatch of the 2nd of May last, on the part of certain French agents in purchasing negroes on the East Coast of Africa, and then transporting them to the Comoro Islands, from whence they were introduced into the French Colony of Nossi Bé as free labourers.

You will perceive that M. Thouvenel represents that the Government of the Emperor has not received any information with regard to the particular transaction which forms the subject of your despatch; but he states that the Count de Chasseloup Laubat, the Minister of Marine, has requested explanations on the subject, and that Minister remarks that Her Majesty's Government doubtless confound the recruitment of Africans from the East Coast of Africa with the engagement of free blacks from the Comoro Islands; and that while the former is strictly prohibited, the latter is allowed to the Colonies of Nossi Bé and Mayotte, because slavery does not exist in the Comoro Islands, and that consequently the engagements made there are with free men who are at liberty to dispose of their services as they may think fit.

I should be glad to receive any observations which you may have to offer upon this explanation of the French Minister, and I have to desire that you will at the same time inform me what is the state of the relations between the labouring population in the Comoro Isles and the King and Chiefs; and whether, as stated by the French Minister, the natives are at liberty to leave the island of their own free will and to engage their services to French colonists; and whether in that case their places are supplied by slaves surreptitiously introduced by the King or Chiefs from the mainland.

There is another point which forms the subject of comment in the French Minister's note—I allude to the employment by you of large numbers of native labourers on your sugar plantations; but as I have already on a former occasion called upon you for full explanations on this subject, it will not be necessary that I should do more than refer to the matter on the present occasion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

* No. 83 and Inclosure.

FRANCE.

No. 76.

Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copies of a letter and its inclosure from the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Sharpshooter,"* which have been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which he boarded the French barque "Don Juan" off the African coast on the 7th of December last, for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I have to observe that Her Majesty's Consul-General in Cuba, at the time when the "Don Juan" sailed from the Havana, reported that it was understood there that she was intended to be employed in the Slave Trade; and the fact of this vessel, bound ostensibly for China, being found on the African coast in the neighbourhood of the Congo river, would seem to confirm the suspicions entertained as to the illegality of the voyage on which the "Don Juan" is engaged.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 77.

Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 23, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 28th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Sharpshooter," reporting the circumstances under which he boarded the French barque "Don Juan," off the African coast, in the month of December last, I now transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana,† reporting that the "Don Juan" landed a cargo of upwards of 600 slaves in the Island of Cuba in the night of the 25th of January last, and that her master and crew, who landed at Cardenas in a small coasting-vessel, stating their vessel to have sprung a leak and sunk, have been sent as prisoners to Havana to be placed at the disposal of the Captain-General.

Your Excellency will take an opportunity of communicating the particulars regarding this vessel to M. de Thouvenel, in case the French Government should not have received information from other sources.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 78.

Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd of March last, I transmit to your Excellency herewith an extract of a despatch from Sir H. Huntley, the Acting British Commissioner in the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda,‡ containing further information relative to the French ship "Don Juan," which lately succeeded in shipping a cargo of slaves from the African coast, and landing them in Cuba.

* Class A, No. 64.

† No. 167.

‡ Class A, No. 27.

The success of this vessel will doubtless encourage others, destined to be engaged in the Slave Trade, to assume the French flag, under the pretence of carrying coolies, as in the case of the "*Don Juan*," unless some preventive measures are adopted by the French authorities. Your Excellency will take an opportunity of pointing this out to M. Thouvenel, and you will ask that Minister whether it is the intention of the French Government to take any proceedings against the owners or other parties interested in the "*Don Juan*."

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 79.

Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley,

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 15, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copy of a despatch from Colonel Rigby, Her Majesty's Agent and Consul at Zanzibar,* which has been communicated to me by the Secretary of State for India, containing information relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on from the East Coast of Africa.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate to the French Government the substance of that portion of Colonel Rigby's despatch which relates to the proceedings of the Slave Agent Buona Ventura Mas; for although it would appear that this individual is no longer in the employment of the French Consulate or under French protection, yet Her Majesty's Government think it right that the Government of the Emperor should know the true character of Mas, and the extent to which he has been engaged in Slave Trade speculations.

Her Majesty's Government cannot but think that Colonel Rigby was borne out in the course which he pursued in warning British subjects at Zanzibar not to have any dealings with Mas, and they do not doubt that if the Government of the Emperor had been aware of the true character of this individual, M. Thouvenel would not have placed in your Excellency's hands the *note verbale* complaining of Colonel Rigby's conduct in this affair which your Excellency transmitted to me in your despatch of the 11th of February, 1860.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 80.

Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 13, 1861.

I INCLOSE, for your Excellency's information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Her Majesty's Agent and Consul at Zanzibar,† reporting that the Traffic in Slaves at the Comoro Islands, which was formerly carried on by French agents until prohibited by the Imperial Government in January 1859, has been again resumed by French vessels.

Her Majesty's Government cannot but think that Colonel Rigby has made his report upon insufficient information, and that it is in reality destitute of any foundation; but I, nevertheless, think it right that your Excellency should acquaint the French Government that such a report has reached the Government of Her Majesty, in order that it may receive an official denial.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 81.

Lord J. Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 17, 1861.

IN my despatch of the 13th instant, I transmitted to your Excellency a copy of a despatch from Colonel Rigby, Her Majesty's Consul and Agent at Zanzibar, reporting

* No. 90.

† No. 96.

that French vessels were again exporting negroes from the East Coast of Africa to the French colonies; but while instructing your Excellency to ask for explanations on this subject, I at the same time expressed the belief of Her Majesty's Government that Colonel Rigby must have been misinformed.

I now, however, transmit to your Excellency a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Sunley, Her Majesty's Consul at the Comoro Islands, which, I regret to say, confirms entirely Colonel Rigby's report, and leaves no room for doubting that notwithstanding the despatch of Prince Napoleon to the Governor of Réunion of the 6th of January, 1859, putting an end to the exportation of negroes from the East Coast of Africa to French colonies, this Traffic has again been renewed to Nossi Bé.

I have to instruct your Excellency to call the serious and immediate attention of the Imperial Government to the statements contained in Mr. Sunley's despatch, and to request that strict orders may be sent to suppress this Traffic in conformity to the Emperor's Decrees relating to the sale and purchase of labourers on the East Coast of Africa.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 82.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 28, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Colonel Rigby, Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar,* respecting the Slave Agent Buona Ventura Mas.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 83.

Earl Cowley to Earl Russell.—(Received October 25.)

My Lord,

Paris, October 24, 1861.

ON receipt of your Lordship's despatches of the 13th and 17th July last, I addressed a note to M. Thouvenel, calling the immediate attention of the French Government to the fact, as reported by Her Majesty's Consuls at Zanzibar and the Comoro Islands, that French vessels were again exporting negroes from the East Coast of Africa to French Colonies, and I have now the honour to inclose copy of the note which I have received in reply from his Excellency.

M. Thouvenel states with regard to the special case mentioned by Mr. Sunley, of negroes having been bought at Quiloa by the French schooner "Antankare," that the authorities of Mayotte, having been applied to for explanations, profess entire ignorance of any such operation. While awaiting, however, further information from those authorities, the French Government insist that Her Majesty's Government confound with the Slave Trade from the East Coast of Africa the recruitments, for Mayotte and Nossibé, of free black labourers from the three Comoro Islands. The former is severely prohibited by France, and is, the Minister of Marine says, rendered impossible by the precautions prescribed by him; whereas the second is allowed to the two above-named Colonies, in which slavery does not exist. M. Thouvenel, as your Lordship will observe, goes at considerable length into the nature of this recruitment, which, according to his Excellency, presents all the conditions of a perfectly valid contract, and he proceeds to cast doubts on the impartiality of Mr. Sunley in the question.

The note ends by calling the attention of Her Majesty's Government to a report which has reached that of the Emperor, but to which it does not attach entire credence, that English cruizers on the East Coast of Africa frequently hoist French colours with a view to more closely watching Arab vessels in those waters.

I have, &c.
(Signed) COWLEY.

Inclosure in No. 83.

M. Thouvenel to Earl Cowley.

M. le Comte,

Paris, le 22 Octobre, 1861.

VOTRE Excellence par une lettre en date du 19 Juillet appelait l'attention du Gouvernement de l'Empereur sur des opérations de traite qui, d'après des renseignements parvenus à Londres, s'étaient effectués à la Côte Orientale d'Afrique, sous pavillon Français. Les rapports envoyés par l'Agent Britannique aux Iles Comores, M. Sunley, signalait ce fait—qu'un schooner Français, "l'Antankare," aurait acheté des noirs à Kiloa, et serait ensuite venu faire légaliser cette opération illicite à la Grande Comore, en se procurant à prix d'argent, d'un Chef de cette Ile, une fausse attestation de l'embarquement de ces travailleurs. Votre Excellence ajoutait que le Gouvernement Britannique voyait avec regret que les recrutements d'Africains que son Altesse le Prince Napoleon avait interdite au mois de Juin 1859, furent encore poursuivis pour le compte de nos établissements de Mayotte et de Nossi-bé.

M. le Ministre de la Marine a demandé des explications à M. le Commandant Supérieur de Mayotte sur le fait imputé à "l'Antankare," au sujet duquel il ne possède aucune espèce d'information ; mais, en attendant qu'il les ait reçues, M. le Comte de Chasseloup-Laubat me fait observer que le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique confond des opérations très différentes en supposant que les recrutements pour le compte de Mayotte et de Nossi-bé s'effectuent à la Côte Orientale d'Afrique contrairement à nos rénonciations officielles. Loin qu'il en soit ainsi, toute opération faite à la Côte d'Afrique serait l'objet d'une sévère répression ; mais nous autorisons encore, comme nous l'avons toujours fait, les seuls colons de Mayotte et de Nossi-bé (car ceux de la Réunion ne jouissent pas de cette faculté) à engager des travailleurs dans les trois Iles Comores, Anjouan, Mohili, et la Grande Comore. Cette faculté leur a été accordée et leur est maintenue parceque l'esclavage n'existe pas dans ces Iles. Elles sont gouvernées féodalement, comme l'Egypte, par des Chefs qui laissent à leurs sujets toute liberté de contracter des engagements de travail, et de s'expatrier pour un temps déterminé. Les recrutements que nous effectuons aux Comores présentent donc le caractère de contrats parfaitement réguliers, passés avec connaissance de cause, sous une surveillance immédiate et complète, et avec toutes facilités d'acclimatation et de rapatriement pour l'engagé, qui ne change, pour ainsi dire, pas de pays, puisque les Iles Comores et nos établissements de Mayotte et de Nossi-bé appartiennent au même Archipel. On objecte que des esclaves peuvent être emmenés de la côte d'Afrique aux Iles Comores, et introduits ensuite, comme Comoriens, dans nos propres établissements. Une semblable appréhension est sans fondement en présence des précautions excessives que le Département de la Marine a prescrites, depuis longtemps, pour prévenir cet abus. Les instructions qu'il a données à ce sujet disent très expressément qu'il ne faut pas que des esclaves, venus de la côte d'Afrique ou de Madagascar, et ayant fait une simple escale à Anjouan, soient ensuite apportés par des boutres appartenant à des Chefs de cette île, et engagés, à Mayotte, comme des Comoriens d'origine libre. De telles recommandations sont donc, je le répète, une garantie que les travailleurs introduits à Mayotte et à Nossi-bé y viennent de leur plein consentement, et sont bien réellement d'origine Comorienne.

Nous ne saurions nous dispenser, au surplus, de constater que M. Sunley, qui s'élève si vivement contre nos recrutements dans les Comores, ne s'abstient pas de recourir, pour son propre compte, à l'engagement d'indigènes Comoriens, et qu'il entretient, sur ses établissements sucriers, un grand nombre de travailleurs, recrutés par lui à Anjouan, avec le concours des Chefs de cette île. Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique admettra, sans doute avec nous, que cette circonstance n'est pas de nature à inspirer à M. Sunley une bien grande impartialité dans ses appréciations.

Il est un fait d'une autre nature que nous ne saurions laisser échapper non plus l'occasion de signaler à la loyauté du Gouvernement de la Reine. Des informations parvenues à M. le Ministre de la Marine lui ont appris que, dans les parages de la Côte Orientale d'Afrique des croiseurs Anglais auraient arboré plusieurs fois le pavillon Français, dans la pensée, paraîtrait-il, qu'ils surveilleraient plus facilement les Arabes que la vue de ce pavillon ne mettait pas en défiance. Sans vouloir ajouter une entière créance à ces renseignements, nous croyons devoir en faire part au Cabinet de Londres, en vue d'empêcher que le renouvellement de ce fait, s'il est exact, expose nos batiments de commerce à être pillés et détruits par les Arabes à titre de représailles.

Agrérez, &c.

(Signé) THOUVENEL.

(Translation.)

M. le Comte,

Paris, October 22, 1861.

YOUR Excellency, in a letter dated July 19th, called the attention of the Emperor's Government to some slave-trading operations which, according to information received at London, were accomplished on the East Coast of Africa under the French flag. The report sent by Mr. Sunley, the British Agent at the Comoro Islands, stated that a French schooner, the "Antankare," had purchased slaves at Quiloa, and had afterwards legalized this illicit proceeding by purchasing at the Great Comoro Isle, from an authority of that island, a false certificate of the embarkation of these labourers. Your Excellency added that the British Government saw with regret that the recruitment of Africans, which His Imperial Highness the Prince Napoleon had prohibited in the month of June 1859, was still carried on for our Colonies of Mayotte and Nossi-Bé.

The Minister of Marine has requested explanations from M. le Commandant Supérieur of Mayotte respecting the charge against the "Antankare," on which subject he does not possess the slightest information; but whilst awaiting it, M. le Comte de Chasseloup-Laubat points out to me that Her Britannic Majesty's Government confuses very different transactions in supposing that the recruitments for Mayotte and Nossi-Bé are made on the East Coast of Africa contrary to our formal declarations. Sooner than that this should be the case, all operations on the Coast of Africa would be strictly suppressed; but we still authorize, as we have always done, the colonists of Mayotte and Nossi-Bé alone (for those of Réunion do not enjoy that permission) to engage labourers in the three Comoro Islands, Anjouan, Mohilla, and the Great Comoro. This permission has been, and still is, accorded to them, because slavery does not exist in those islands. They are governed feudally like Egypt by Chiefs, who leave to their subjects entire liberty to enter into engagements for work, and to emigrate for a fixed time. Our recruiting at the Comoro Isles, therefore, bears the character of perfectly regular contracts, made with a knowledge of the nature of the engagements contracted, under a complete and immediate superintendence, and with every facility to the labourer for acclimatization and for returning to his country; and, therefore, he does not, as it were, change his country, since the Comoro Islands and our Colonies of Mayotte and Nossi Bé are situated in the same Archipelago. It is stated that slaves may be taken from the Coast of Africa to the Comoro Islands, and afterwards introduced into our own Colonies as natives of Comoro. This apprehension is groundless, considering the extreme precautions which the Department of Marine has long observed to prevent this abuse. The instructions given on this subject expressly state that slaves from the Coast of Africa or Madagascar, having simply entered the harbour of Anjouan, must not afterwards be taken in dhows belonging to the Chiefs of that island, and hired at Mayotte as free natives of Comoro. Such instructions are, then, I repeat a guarantee that the labourers introduced into Mayotte and Nossi Bé come of their own free will, and are really natives of Comoro.

We cannot, however, refrain from affirming that Mr. Sunley, who so strongly opposes our exportations from the Comoro Islands, does not scruple to avail himself on his own account of the engagement of natives of Comoro, and that he maintains on his sugar establishments a large number of labourers, collected by him at Anjouan with the consent of the Chiefs of that Island. Her Britannic Majesty's Government will doubtless agree with us that this circumstance is not calculated to inspire Mr. Sunley with great impartiality in his views.

There is a fact of a different nature which we cannot omit the opportunity of notifying to Her Majesty Government. From information received, the Minister of Marine has learnt that on the stations on the East Coast of Africa, English cruisers have frequently hoisted the French flag, with the idea, seemingly, that they would more easily watch the Arab vessels, among which the sight of this flag would not create suspicion. Without giving absolute credence to these reports, we think that we ought to mention them to the Cabinet at London, with a view to prevent that, from a recurrence of these acts, our merchant vessels should be exposed to pillage and destruction by the Arabs in retaliation.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) THOUVENEL.

Earl Russell to Earl Cowley.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Excellency's information, copies of a letter and its inclosures from Rear-Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker, the Commander-in-chief of Her Majesty's naval forces on the Cape of Good Hope Station,* containing the result of inquiries which I requested that that officer might be directed to make, regarding the reports that had reached Her Majesty's Government that the recruitment of Africans for French Colonies was still being carried out on the East Coast of Africa.

The accounts now received, I regret to say, leave no room to doubt that the reports formerly sent to Her Majesty's Government, and on which, by my despatch of the 13th of July last, I instructed your Excellency to make a representation to the French Government, were well founded.

In the *note verbale* placed in your Excellency's hands by M. Thouvenel, containing the reply of the French Government to your representation, of which a copy is inclosed in your despatch of the 24th of October, it would appear that, while the recruitment of Africans for the French Colonies from the East Coast of Africa is severely prohibited, and, as the Minister of Marine states, rendered impossible by the precautions taken by him, the engagement of black labourers for the Colonies of Mayotte and Nossi Bé from the three Comoro Islands is, on the other hand, permitted, because it is stated that slavery does not exist in those islands, and that the natives are left entirely free by their Chiefs to dispose of their services as they may think proper.

But the information received by Her Majesty's Government leads to a totally different conclusion, as you will perceive from the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. Ellis, a gentleman who, on several occasions, has been in charge of Her Majesty's Consulate in the Comoro Islands, and who, having returned within the last few days from Johanna, is therefore well acquainted with the state of affairs in those islands.

It will be seen from this letter, not only that slavery does exist in the Comoro Islands, but that the Chiefs never allow a slave to expatriate or to engage himself for work out of their islands without first receiving his full value in hard cash; and Mr. Ellis states, moreover, that if French Agents are allowed to hire (or rather to buy) the services of these slaves, their places will be supplied by Africans imported in Arab dhows from the mainland, a course of proceeding which, it cannot be doubted, must tend to encourage the Slave Trade.

Nor is this all, for, notwithstanding the great precautions which the French *vote verbale* states are taken to prevent any abuse of the permission granted to French Agents to import labourers from the Comoro Isles into Mayotte and Nossi Bé, it would appear from the concurrent testimony of Mr. Ellis and of the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Wasp" (see Inclosure No. 6 in Admiral Walker's letter), that a French vessel called the "Antankare," and stated to have had a Government Agent on board, arrived at Johanna in the month of April last, with a cargo of negroes, who had been procured by purchase from the mainland of Africa, and that the Chief of the Comoro Isles was induced by a bribe of 200 or 300 dollars, to give passports certifying that the negroes on board were natives of the Comoro Islands, and that they had been engaged there as free labourers.

I have to instruct your Excellency to communicate the substance of Mr. Ellis's letter, and of Admiral Walker's Reports, to the French Government, and in doing so you will state that Her Majesty's Government feel assured that the Government of the Emperor will see that they have not, without good reason, complained of the continued recruitment of Africans by French Agents from the East Coast of Africa; and your Excellency will express the earnest hope of Her Majesty's Government that steps may be taken to put a stop to this recruitment of Africans for French Colonies, which is not only directly contrary to the orders of the French Government, but is also in violation of the engagements contracted by that Government towards the Government of Her Majesty on this subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

Inclosure in No. 84.

Mr. Ellis to Mr. Layard.

(Extract.)

Hasfield Rectory, near Gloucester, November 30, 1861.

IN reply to your letter of the 23rd instant, inclosing copy of a *note verbale* from the French Government, and stating that Lord Russell would be glad to receive any observations I may have to offer thereupon; I beg to say, with reference to M. Thouvenel's statement that slavery does not exist in the Comoro Islands, and that they are governed feudally, like Egypt, by Chiefs who leave to their subjects entire liberty to contract engagements of service, and to expatriate themselves for a certain time, that the Islands of Johanna and Comoro are governed despotically by Sultans, and Mohilla by a Sultana or Queen, who certainly leave to their free Arab subjects (very few in number) entire liberty of action, but never allow any slave to expatriate or engage himself for any work out of their islands without his full value is first received in hard cash.

I am not aware that an exception was made in favour of the Colonies of Mayotte and Nossi Bé when the Prince Napoleon forbade in June 1859 recruitments of Africans on the coast for the Island of Réunion; and if these Colonies are allowed to hire (literally buy) slaves at Johanna, Mohilla, and Comoro, where slavery does exist, and is a recognized domestic institution, Africans will be imported by Arabs in dhows into those islands, in spite of the vigilance of our cruisers and the remonstrances of our Consul.

The people of Comoro are the only ones of the whole group who care to work in the service of the French at Nossi Bé and Mayotte. This island is constantly in a state of civil war, as there are two Sultans always finding pretexts for robbing each other of cattle and slaves. No water is found except what is collected in tanks and jars in the rainy season; and rice, as at Johanna, is not grown in sufficient quantity to supply the wants of the population. Much misery and starvation is the lot of these poor people, and they consequently emigrate annually in small numbers to Mayotte and Nossi Bé.

Advantage is taken of this by the Captains of French ships employed in the recruitment of Africans on the coast to "legalize their operation" as it is called, as in the case of the "Antankare," the facts of which are these:—

Nossi Bé is a most fertile island, but the natives (Malgaches) are lazy and vicious. Labourers must be had for the sugar plantations, and advantage was taken of the permit given by the Prince Napoleon in his Proclamation of June 1859, allowing recruitments already in operation till June 1862 to complete their arrangements, to despatch the "Antankare" to Lindy first, and Comoro afterwards, to "legalize the operation:" the vessel was fitted out by private persons, and its proceedings connived at by the Governor of Nossi Bé.

It is true that Mr. Sunley employs on his sugar-plantation free men, and also slaves hired by him of their Arab masters in the Island of Johanna; he furthermore pays these people for their daily work. The slave is happy and contented; he is paid for his labour (which his Arab master never thinks of doing), thus making him feel equal to the free man, and he escapes the, to him, dreadful alternative of being sold by his Arab master to a French ship, for the purpose of being transferred to the Islands of Mayotte and Nossi Bé.

MONTE VIDEO.

No. 85.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Lettsom.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 8, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of November last, I transmit to you herewith, for your information, and for communication to the Government of the Uruguay, copies of a further despatch and its inclosures from Her Majesty's Judge in the Mixed Commission Courts at Sierra Leone,* reporting the proceedings in the case of the Monte Videan barque "*Constancia*," which vessel was detained on the 15th of August last by Her Majesty's ship "*Alecto*," in the Cameroons river, on a charge of being equipped for the Slave Trade, and has been condemned by the British and Uruguayan Mixed Court of Justice established at Sierra Leone under the provisions of the Treaty of July 1839, between Great Britain and the Republic of Uruguay, for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 86.

Mr. Lettsom to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 7.)

My Lord,

Monte Video, April 29, 1861.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatches of the 15th of November, 1860, and of the 8th of January, 1861, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of the correspondence that has passed between Señor Acevedo and me relative to the Uruguayan barque "*Constancia*."

Señor Acevedo tells me, that if the "*Constancia*" had become, by purchase, the property of an Uruguayan citizen in Havana, the Consul of the Republic at that port should have transmitted to his Government a notice of the sale and purchase, but that he has not done so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. G. LETTSOM.

Inclosure 1 in No. 86.

Mr. Lettsom to Señor Acevedo.

Monte Video, January 26, 1861.

THE Undersigned, by the orders of his Government, has the honour to transmit herewith to his Excellency Señor Eduardo Acevedo, &c., a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Judge of the Mixed Commission Court at Sierra Leone, reporting the detention of the Monte Videan barque "*Constancia*" by Her Majesty's ship "*Alecto*," on a charge of being equipped for the Slave Trade, and stating that this case has been brought for adjudication before the British and Uruguayan Mixed Court in that Colony on the 5th of October last.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed) W. G. LETTSOM.

* Class A, presented 1861, No. 11.

Inclosure 2 in No. 86.

Señor Acevedo to Mr. Lettsom.

(Translation.)

Monte Video, January 29, 1861.

IN consequence of the communication which, by the orders of his Government, Mr. Lettsom, &c., addressed, on the 26th ultimo, to the Undersigned, this Department will apply for and procure from the Department of War and Marine the suitable particulars relative to the conditions of equipment and qualification in this port of the barque "*Constancia*," which appears to have been detained, while sailing under the national flag, from it being suspected that she was destined for the Traffic in Slaves, near Sierra Leone.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

EDUARDO ACEVEDO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 86.

Señor Acevedo to Mr. Lettsom.

(Translation.)

Monte Video, February 9, 1861.

IN addition to the note from this Department dated the 29th of January last, the Undersigned, &c., has the honour to transmit herewith to Mr. Lettsom, &c., in a certified copy, the Report furnished from the office of the Captain of the Port with reference to the barque "*Constancia*," detained at Sierra Leone.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

EDUARDO ACEVEDO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 86.

The Captain of the Port to the Minister of War and Marine.

(Translation.)

Office of the Captain of the Port,

Your Excellency,

Monte Video, February 1, 1861.

AFTER a careful examination of the registers of the rolls of the national vessels, not any high-sea ship of the name of "*Constancia*" is met with.

A Spanish polacca named "*Constancia*" left this port on the 22nd of August of the year 1860, for Havana, with a cargo of dried beef, dispatched by the house of Crucet and Fernandez.

A Spanish barque also of this name left this port for that of Havana on the 27th of October of the same year with a cargo of meat, dispatched by Don Jaime Civils.

(Signed)

JOSÉ BRITO DEL PINO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 86.

*Mr. Lettsom to Señor Acevedo.**Monte Video, April 20, 1861.*

WITH reference to former correspondence, the Undersigned has the honour to transmit herewith to his Excellency Don Eduardo Acevedo, &c., the annexed copies of the evidence taken in the case of the Uruguayan barque "*Constancia*," detained on the charge of being equipped for and engaged in the illicit Traffic in Slaves.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

W. G. LETTSOM.

MUSCAT. (*Consular*)—Zanzibar.

No. 89.

Lord J. Russell to Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 19, 1861.

THE Secretary of State for India has transmitted to me a Report drawn up by Brigadier Coghlan, comprising the result of inquiries recently made by that officer on the subject of the Slave Trade on the Eastern Coast of Africa.

A considerable portion of this Report is founded on information received by Brigadier Coghlan from you, and which you have already furnished to Her Majesty's Government, but it contains also some new matter, and tends to show that the Slave Trade is carried on almost as actively on the Eastern as on the Western Coast of Africa.

Brigadier Coghlan estimates the number of slaves exported from the dominions of the Sultan of Zanzibar, and from the neighbouring Portuguese territories, at upwards of 30,000 annually, and he states that whole districts have been depopulated, and towns and villages destroyed in the wars that have been carried on for the purpose of procuring slaves for exportation.

These facts, even if allowance be made for some exaggeration, show that more stringent measures than have hitherto been adopted are required for the suppression of this iniquitous Traffic.

I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Lisbon to make a strong representation to the Portuguese Government, with the view to procure the removal and punishment of the officers who have connived at the trade in slaves which is carried on from the Portuguese territories, and I have to desire that you will express to the Sultan of Zanzibar the regret of Her Majesty's Government that the stipulations of the Treaty between Great Britain and Zanzibar, by which his Highness is bound to prevent the exportation of slaves from his dominions, have not been more faithfully observed.

Her Majesty's Government do not deny that the Sultan may have many difficulties to contend with in preventing the export of slaves from his dominions, but those difficulties cannot be alleged as a sufficient reason for the non-fulfilment of Treaty engagements, and you will point out to his Highness that he is bound, if the measures hitherto adopted by him are proved to be insufficient, to resort to other measures by which his engagements with this country may be more faithfully fulfilled.

One of the measures which, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, would be most efficacious for this end, would be to prohibit slaves from being carried coastwise from one part of the Sultan's dominions to the other.

There can be little doubt that the greater portion of the slaves so conveyed are intended for exportation, and so long as this coast traffic is permitted to continue it, will be impossible for the Sultan's officers, or for the Commanders of British cruisers, to prevent slaves from being exported from the Zanzibar territory.

I have accordingly to instruct you to suggest to his Highness that orders should be given prohibiting, under severe penalties, the transport of slaves coastwise from one portion of his dominions to the other; and you will also propose to his Highness that he should conclude an Additional Article to the Treaty between Zanzibar and Great Britain, by which the Commanders of British cruisers should be authorized to seize and detain all vessels under the Zanzibar flag engaged in the coasting trade, on board of which slaves may be discovered.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 90.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Sir C. Wood.

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, August 28, 1860.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, the following circumstances connected with the Slave Trade in the Zanzibar dominions.

On the 15th of June last a Spanish slave-agent from Cuba arrived here in an American vessel, and took up his abode with the notorious Spanish slave-agent, Buona Ventura Mas, who has long been carrying on an extensive Traffic in Slaves in the Zanzibar dominions.

A few days after the arrival of the above agent, it became known that a great many slaves were being purchased by Arab agents of Buona Ventura Mas, both in the slave-market and from Arab proprietors of plantations in the interior of the island; and I was also informed by an Arab employé of my office, who was at the port of Keelwa, that two agents of Mas had arrived there, and were purchasing slaves, and had already shipped off two boat-loads of them to Zanzibar.

These transactions were carried on with so little attempt at concealment that they were the common talk of all classes here, and I urged His Highness the Sultan to put a stop to proceedings so opposed to his Treaties with the British Government. His Highness, therefore, arrested one of Mas' chief agents, and imprisoned him in irons. At my urgent request, all the slaves discovered who had been purchased on account of Mas were emancipated by His Highness the Sultan, and are now located on His Highness' own estates. The number is between 300 and 400. But these form a very small proportion of the entire number purchased, and many of the chief Arabs of the island have been concerned in this Traffic.

In order to prevent any of the British-Indian subjects resident here from aiding or abetting this Slave Traffic, I issued a notice warning them against having any commercial dealings with any persons, whether Europeans or Arabs, whom they knew to be engaged in the purchase or sale of slaves for shipment to foreign countries. Immediately this notice was posted at the Custom-house, the French Consul threatened to haul down his flag, saying that the Spanish slave-agent, to whom allusion was made in it, was under French protection.

On the 31st of July, a vessel was observed at anchor about nine miles south of this port.

The Arab Commander of one of His Highness' ships of war, who, having been educated in England, is conversant with the French and English languages, called on me, and stated that he had proceeded in a boat to visit her; and the following is a copy of a memorandum which he made on board, and which he has delivered to me:—

“Mem.—On Wednesday, August 1, 1860, barque ‘*Formosa Estrella*,’ Commander Magin Prexas, from Havana 27th January, arrived here 27th July, bound to Aden; his consignees, Messrs. Vidal Frères, belonging to Havana; 232 tons, 150 large casks of water, 35 men, with Captain and 2 officers; and have found a number of irons, chains, tin-plates, and a number of bags of rice.”

The Arab Commander further informed me that this vessel was completely equipped for the Slave Trade. The commander of the slaver shortly afterwards hove-up anchor and stood to the south.

The consignees of this slaver, Vidal Frères, are French merchants at Marseilles; their agent here is the notorious slave-dealer Buona Ventura Mas, and I have been informed that Vidal Frères are known to be the owners of the “*Formosa Estrella*.”

The “*Formosa Estrella*” again returned to the East side of the island, and letters from Mas which he had sent across the island were intercepted by the Sultan, and clearly proved his connection with the Slave Traffic. Upon His Highness submitting these letters to the French Consul, the latter stated that Mas was no longer under French protection; and His Highness, therefore, ordered Mas to quit his dominions by the first opportunity. During these occurrences the Spanish slave agent from Cuba absconded, and a few days afterwards Mas also secretly left the island in a native boat.

On the morning of the 2nd of August I received information that a vessel, supposed to be a slaver, had been seen at anchor near the Island of Monfea; the “*Lyra*” therefore proceeded to sea that night, and captured a large American clipper-built ship completely equipped for the Slave Trade. A copy of the charter-party made with Buona Ventura Mas to supply the slaves was found on board, and her provisions had also been supplied from here, having been sent out to her on board the Spanish brig “*Numa*” which Mas employed here to communicate with the slave-ships arriving on the coast.

The Commander of the captured vessel also stated that he had been induced to

engage in this Traffic from Mas having written to Barcelona that there were no British cruisers on the East Coast of Africa; he further stated that the money for the purchase of the slaves is sent here to Mas from Marseilles in vessels belonging to Vidal Frères, the charter-party and all papers being sent out overland viâ Aden.

It is well known here that the money is sent as above described.

The return of Her Majesty's ship "Lyra" to this port having the captured vessel in tow caused a great sensation amongst the inhabitants, it being the first occasion that a captured slaver had ever been brought into this harbour. His Majesty's steam-corvette "Brisk" has also recently captured a large American clipper-built ship near Johanna, with 846 slaves on board.

The Slave Trade is very much on the increase along the East Coast of Africa. At the Portuguese ports it is carried on in the most shameless manner.

No. 91.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, November 26, 1860.

WITH reference to my letter to your address dated the 27th of August last, reporting that a slave ship under Spanish colours, named the "*Formosa Estrella*," had been at anchor in a bay on the east side of this island, I have the honour to inform you that the above slave-ship has been recently captured at Lamoo by the authorities of His Highness the Sultan Sayyid Majid, and brought to this port.

I have told His Highness that I consider there can be no doubt of the legality of the capture, the vessel being at anchor in his port completely equipped for the Slave Trade, and the master confessing he had come there to procure slaves. He showed no papers, and no register of the ship has been found. Her port clearance is from Havana to Monte Video, and she has ten men on board more than is shown in the crew-list.

It is said that Sayyid Saood had been commissioned by Mas to procure the slaves for this vessel, on his arrival at Lamoo. It so happened that Sayyid Saood arrived there the day after the order of His Highness the Sultan for her capture. Upon hearing this he became very angry with the officer who had given the information. Although he is a very old respectable man, who was with Captain Owen and Captain Freemantle at the Kooria Mooraa Islands, Sayyid Saood threatened his life, and to cut his beard off, and ordered him to quit Lamoo for interfering with the slaver.

No. 92.

Lord J. Russell to Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, May 20, 1861.

THE Secretary of State for India has communicated to me copies of your despatches to the Secretary of the Government of Bombay, of the 28th of August and of the 26th of November last, on matters connected with the Slave Trade which is carried on from the East Coast of Africa.

I had already been made acquainted, by Reports which I had received from the Admiralty, and by despatches from yourself, with some of the circumstances which form the subject of your communications to the Government of Bombay, but those communications contain further information on which it will be right that I should make known to you the views of Her Majesty's Government.

As regards your despatch of the 27th of August, I have to state that I approve the language held by you to the Sultan of Zanzibar, as reported in that despatch with reference to the shipment of slaves from his dominions by persons acting in conjunction with the slave-agent Mas.

With reference to your despatch of the 26th of November last, reporting the proceedings of Sayyid Saood-bin-Hallal in seizing and ordering to be put to death an Arab named Salim Jubran, who had been in the employment of Her Majesty's Consulate, on account of his having furnished you with information respecting the movements of the slave-dealers, I have to instruct you to acquaint His Highness the Sultan that your conduct in demanding the instant dismissal of Sayyid Saood-bin-Hallal from the Governorship of Lamoo for his proceedings towards Salim Jubran has been entirely approved by Her Majesty's Government, and you will add, that Her Majesty's Government will hold the

local authorities responsible for any injuries that may be committed either on Salim Jubraan, or on any other persons who may be employed in furnishing you, or Her Majesty's naval officers, with information respecting the Slave Trade.

No. 93.

Lord J. Russell to Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 7, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a Memorandum which I have received from Dr. Livingstone requesting that inquiries may be instituted with the view, if possible, to discover the fate of a party of Makololo Africans, who in the latter part of the year 1855 left their country, under the guidance of an Arab named Raia Saidi Ben Habib Ben Salem Lafifi, to trade on the Western Coast of Africa.

None of the party have ever returned to their homes, and you will perceive that it is suspected that Ben Habib sold them into slavery. This Arab is reported now to be settled on his father's property, as head man of an Arab village near Zanzibar, and if this should be the case you may probably be enabled to find him out, and to learn from him the fate of the party of Makololos who were entrusted to his guidance.

I have accordingly to desire that you will make inquiries into this matter, and you will report to me the result of your investigations, and also to Dr. Livingstone himself if you should have an opportunity of doing so.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 94.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 12.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, January 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copy of a despatch, with two inclosures, which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 94.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Sir C. Wood.

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, January 1, 1861.

WITH reference to my letter to your address dated the 28th of August, 1860, relative to this port having been visited by the "*Formosa Estrella*," a slaver under Spanish colours, I have the honour to inform you that this vessel has been captured in the port of Lamoo, situate on the East Coast of Africa within the Zanzibar dominions, by the authorities of his Highness the Sultan Sayyid Majid.

The "*Formosa Estrella*" was consigned to a notorious slave-agent residing here, a Spaniard, by name Buona Ventura Mas, who under the protection of the French Consul has long carried on an extensive Traffic in Slaves with both Cuba and La Réunion. After the "*Formosa Estrella*" had been visited by the French Consul she again returned to her former position on the east side of the island of Zanzibar, and letters from Mas to persons on board were intercepted by His Highness the Sultan, and shown to the French Consul; they so clearly proved Mas' connection with the Slave Trade that he was at length obliged to declare Mas to be no longer under French protection, and the Sultan at once directed Mas to quit his dominions. Instead of doing so, he secretly decamped during the night, and went to Lamoo, where he chiefly carried on his vile Traffic.

His Highness immediately sent one of his principal officers, by name Abdallah-bin-Allee, with orders to arrest Mas and send him away, and he was therefore sent to Aden in a native vessel. The "*Formosa Estrella*" soon after arrived at Lamoo, and the Commander confessed that his object was to procure slaves, but that having depended on Mas for them he had only sufficient money on board to pay for 100. The original deposition in the

Arabic language of Abdallah-bin-Allee, relative to the capture of the vessel, together with translation of it in English, are herewith inclosed.

When the Sultan's officer boarded the "*Formosa Estrella*" at Lamoo, the Commander hoisted Spanish colours, although a short time previous, when chased by a party from Her Majesty's ship "Lyra," he hoisted French colours. The Commander refused to produce any ship's papers, and no register or port clearance has since been found on board. The only ship's papers discovered are a crew list, of which a copy is inclosed, and a personal passport of the Commander from the authorities of Havana. The crew list shows a total of twenty-one souls on board, including four passengers, whereas the actual number of men on board is thirty-four, in addition to the supercargo, who was arrested here and sent to the Mauritius on board Her Majesty's ship "Brisk," to be delivered over to the Spanish Consul at that port.

The "*Formosa Estrella*" is completely equipped for the Slave Trade, and her chart shows that she has been on this coast for four and a-half months.

Inclosure 2 in No. 94.

Statement made on Oath, before the Caze of Zanzibar, by Abdallah bin Allee.

(Translation.)

In the name of the Most Merciful God.

I, ABDALLAH BIN ALLEE EL SARKHI, do hereby make oath and declare that the following is a true account of what occurred on the arrival of a ship under the Spanish flag at the port of Lamoo. I was sent to the port of Lamoo by our Lord the Sultan Majid bin Said, to banish a Spaniard by name Mas, who had been buying and selling slaves at Zanzibar; and I banished him. Afterwards, the Commander of a ship came to Lamoo in a boat, and I asked him where his ship was, and he informed me that it was at a place called Ziwayoo, about twenty English miles distant. I then asked him why he had left his ship. He replied, that he had business with Mas. I informed him that Mas had been banished from the country. He then asked me if Mas had any agent at Lamoo. I replied, No. He afterwards embarked in his boat, and went away. Fifteen days afterwards, a native vessel sailed from Lamoo to a place called Tineweh, a few miles distant, and there found the ship at anchor, with the boats passing and repassing between the ship and the shore. On the native vessel approaching the ship, two boats from the ship chased it. The native vessel therefore returned to Lamoo, and informed me of it. I therefore took some soldiers, and three boats, and went to the ship; and not finding the Captain on board, I asked the Mate why he had anchored in a place where only pirates and slavers came, and why he had no flag. The Captain returned to the ship at night; and in the morning I asked him what he was doing there, and told him that if he wanted provisions or water, &c., to come to Lamoo, and he should be supplied. He replied, "I am afraid if I enter the port of Lamoo an English ship of war may seize me. I have lost a great deal of money through Mas, and he is not here, and I therefore know not what to do. I came here to procure a cargo of slaves from Mas. I have only sufficient money with me to purchase 100 slaves, and this number I want." I told him he could not remain where he was; and he therefore went to Lamoo. On arriving at Lamoo, I told the Captain I must search his ship. When I went on board for the purpose, the vessel had the Spanish flag hoisted. The name of the vessel was on the stern, but had been painted over with black paint. I found 34 sailors on board, including the Captain and Mate; I also found 184 large water-casks, each cask containing about 400 gallons of water; also 82 dozen wooden spoons; 95 large metal (tin) dishes; three large cooking-places; seven sets of slave-irons; 127 bags of rice; planks for a slave-deck,* and other equipments of a slaver. I then asked the Captain to show me his papers, and he refused to do so. I reported all the above circumstances to His Highness the Sultan, and by his order I took charge of the vessel, and transferred the crew to one of His Highness' ships of war, and took the captured slaver to Zanzibar.

Deposed before me on oath by the said Abdallah bin Allee el Sarkhi, this 17th day of the month Jumadi el Awul, in the year of the Hegira 1277, corresponding to A.D. 1st December, 1860.

(The seal of His Highness Majid bin Said,
Sultan of Zanzibar.)

(The seal of Sheikh Moideen,
Cazee of Zanzibar.)

* The slave-deck was laid down.—C. P. R.

No. 95.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 11.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, January 14, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

Inclosure in No. 95.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Sir C. Wood.

Sir,

Zanzibar, January 14, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch to your address dated the 1st instant (forwarded *via* the Cape of Good Hope), relative to the "*Formosa Estrella*," a slaver under Spanish colours, which was captured by the authorities of His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar, I have the honour to inform you that on the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "*Persian*" at this port on the 30th ultimo, His Highness, at my suggestion, delivered up the "*Formosa Estrella*" to the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "*Persian*," as a slaver found engaged in the Slave Trade within His Highness's dominions contrary to the laws.

2. The Commander of the "*Persian*" has, therefore, received charge of the "*Formosa Estrella*," and sent her to the Cape of Good Hope for condemnation.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

No. 96.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 5.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, May 4, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

Inclosure in No. 96.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Sir C. Wood.

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, May 4, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that the Traffic in Slaves at the Comoro Isles, which was carried on to so great an extent by vessels under the French flag until prohibited by a despatch from the Minister of Algeria and the Colonies, dated January 6, 1859, has again been resumed by French vessels.

Although this Slave Trade was designated by the French Government as a system of free negro emigration, it was, in fact, a Slave Trade under its most odious and cruel form; it was rapidly ruining all legal commerce on the East Coast of Africa, and caused warfare and bloodshed all over the interior.

No. 97.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, July 10, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, the inclosed copy of a despatch dated 14th of May, 1861, which I have addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, relative to the extensive Traffic in Slaves between the East Coast of Africa and the Persian Gulf and coasts of Arabia.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

Inclosure in No. 97.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, May 14, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to submit for the consideration of his Excellency the Governor in Council the following remarks relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on to so great an extent between the East Coast of Africa and the coasts of Arabia and Persia.

2. During the last twenty years the stoppage of this Traffic has been an object of solicitude to Her Majesty's Government: but from the experience I have acquired as to the extent to which it is still carried on, I can state with confidence that very little success has hitherto attended the endeavours of the British Government to put a stop to this revolting Traffic, and that the Treaties entered into for its suppression between Her Majesty and the late Imaum of Muscat have not been regarded in the very slightest degree by the Zanzibar authorities. In fact, I believe that the Treaties have been considered a dead letter from the day they were concluded.

3. During the last few years the export of slaves from the interior of Africa to the Island of Zanzibar has been greatly on the increase; it is now carried on in a more organized manner, and has spread much further into the interior than formerly. The number of slaves annually imported into Zanzibar is now not less than 20,000; of these, probably one-half are retained on the island, and the remainder exported to foreign countries in violation of Treaties. In addition to the above, several thousands of slaves are annually taken from the ports within the Portuguese dominions, and also from the River Lindy and the port of Keelwa to ports on the coast to the north of Zanzibar, whence they are afterwards taken to the Arabian coast.

4. Until within the last few years, the vessels which carried the slaves from the East Coast of Africa were not solely engaged in this Traffic; each vessel took on board a few slaves in addition to its cargo: but at present from 100 to 200 slaves and upwards are shipped in one vessel, and it is made a distinct traffic; one Sooree vessel, captured recently by Her Majesty's ship "Sidon," had on board 273 slaves. When carried in such numbers on board Arab craft, the sufferings and mortality of the slaves are greatly augmented; it is stated that frequently one-half the number embarked die before arriving at their destination.

5. In the year 1840, the Acting Resident in the Persian Gulf reported to the Secretary to Government, Bombay, that the number of slaves sold annually in the Gulf was estimated at 4,000 to 5,000, and that 100 vessels were employed in carrying slaves between Zanzibar and the shores of the Persian Gulf. I believe that so far from the subsequent Treaties having had any effect in restricting this Traffic, at the smallest computation 10,000 slaves are now taken north every year, and that upwards of 150 vessels are employed in carrying them.

6. Of the 10,000 slaves thus exported, I believe that fully one-half are shipped in the harbour of Zanzibar, with the full knowledge of the authorities, by whom no notice whatever is taken of the breach of Treaties which this Traffic involves, unless urged by the British Consul to do so.

7. The Honourable Sir J. Carnac, Governor of Bombay, recorded, in a Minute dated the 5th of January, 1841, as follows:—"It would appear by our past engagements that, though the Imaum of Muscat and the Joasmeé Chiefs have taken credit for having conformed to the wishes of the British Government, the Slave Trade prevails, in fact, in its pristine vigour within certain limits, and, as far as they are concerned, the value to us of their engagements has been rendered nugatory; and as much revenue has been derived (by the Imaum of Muscat, for example) from the Traffic of Slaves as he enjoyed when the Slave Trade did not engage our attention."

8. The Honourable Mr. Anderson also recorded, in a Minute without date:—"I am assured that no effectual stop can be put to this Traffic till the carrying away from Africa, on any pretence, slaves, either bought, kidnapped, or taken in war, is declared piracy, and that the measures for capturing vessels so laden are more effectually entered upon. The great step is, to make it no longer a trade of any profit to the slave-dealer in the interior of Africa to bring to the coast slaves for sale. Until this is done, slaves will be brought down, and the terrible miseries of the trade continued."

9. In a letter from Captain Hamerton to the Secretary to the Government, Bombay, dated the 13th July, 1841, he estimates the number of slaves annually imported into the Islands of Pemba and Zanzibar from the Coast of Africa at from 8,000 to 10,000, a duty of 1 dollar per head being paid to the Customs Master. The import of slaves has more than doubled since that time, and the duty charged is now 2 dollars per head.

10. Captain Hamerton also stated as follows:—"In no part of the world is the misery

and suffering these wretched slaves endure whilst being brought here, and until they are sold, exceeded. They are in such a wretched state, from starvation and disease, that they are sometimes considered not worth landing, and are allowed to expire in the boats to save the dollar a-head duty." These remarks equally apply to the present state of this Traffic. Arabs are more callous to the sufferings of slaves than to those of brute animals.

11. Captain Hamerton further reported, in a letter to the Secretary to the Government, Bombay, dated the 2nd January, 1842, as follows:—"The Arabs from the Pirate Coast in the Persian Gulf yearly take a number of slaves by force from Zanzibar, yet the Imaum is unable to prevent them; he fears to do so. With respect to the suppression, or even the amelioration, of the Slave Trade which is carried on by the subjects of His Highness the Imaum and other Chiefs of the Coast of Africa, nothing can ever be effected by negotiation. The Imaum has not the power to interfere in this matter, even were he willing to do so, but he is not. Should Government determine to put a stop to the Slave Trade by sea, it can easily be done; but little or no assistance can be expected from the Imaum."

12. The state of the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa twenty years ago, as described in the above extracts, has continued up to the present time, in spite of Treaties, and of all the efforts of the British Government to put a stop to it. I believe that, with the exception of the Sultan himself, every Arab in Zanzibar is, and always has been, engaged in this Traffic. I know that the Sultan's next brother, by name Abdool Wahab; his nephew, Sayyid Saood; his cousin, the nominal Governor of the town, by name Sayyid Suleiman; the Chiefs of the Shakshee tribe, and the chief Cazee of the town, were all engaged in supplying slaves to Spanish and French vessels. So little secrecy is observed, that vessels belonging to Somalis and Northern Arabs lie at anchor and embark slaves just beneath the windows of the Sultan's Palace. Unless a British cruiser happens to be in the harbour, there is absolutely no check whatever to the illegal export of slaves. I know of one Somali vessel which, this year, embarked 150 slaves; and of another which was at anchor for three days after having embarked 160 slaves; and of a third vessel which embarked 141 slaves. I informed the Sultan of the last, and procured the re-landing of the slaves, and at my request His Highness has given to each of these slaves a certificate of emancipation.

13. One of the Arab vessels captured by Her Majesty's ship "Sidon" had shipped 67 slaves in the harbour of Mombass. I asked the Arab Commander how he could have done so without the connivance of the authorities. He replied that he had not attempted any concealment, and that, whilst there, five other vessels had embarked slaves for the North; and that the Governor of the place told them that they were doing no wrong, as the shipment of slaves was not forbidden by the Sultan. At Keelwa and Lamoo the slaves are also openly embarked; and from Keelwa alone eighteen large dhows, filled with slaves, have sailed North (to the Persian Gulf and Arabian coast) this season.

14. The first season after my arrival at Zanzibar affairs were in a very unsettled state, owing to the expected invasion from Muscat, and therefore the Sultan had no time to interfere with the Northern Slave Trade. Last year His Highness informed me that, in order to prevent the Gulf Arabs procuring slaves, he had prohibited the slave-market entirely during the north-east monsoon, whilst these Arabs remained here; and that he had also ordered his frigate "Piedmontese" to be stationed near the north end of the island to examine all Joasmee and Sooree dhows, and to prevent all but regular traders from entering the harbour.

15. Nevertheless, the slave-market was carried on daily, morning and evening, just outside the town, and the Northern Arabs were permitted to purchase slaves to any extent. The "Piedmontese" was moved down to a narrow channel at the entrance of the harbour, but she had scarcely any crew, and did not stop or board a single dhow during the whole season. The only object of His Highness appeared to be, to induce me to think favourably of his efforts to suppress this Traffic and report to Government accordingly.

16. The stoppage of the export of slaves from Zanzibar in Spanish and French vessels has been already effected, and all British subjects have been prohibited from purchasing or holding slaves, and from taking them as security either for money advanced or for goods; and if this Northern Slave Trade can be suppressed, the bringing of the slaves from a long distance to the coast for sale will be no longer profitable; for, in spite of their having carried on this traffic to so great an extent for so many years, the Arabs in Zanzibar and on the East Coast of Africa are yearly becoming more and more impoverished: their own detestable vices, and the diseases they engender, are destroying them, and all their landed property is passing into the possession of British-Indian subjects, and thus the Arabs can no longer afford to purchase many slaves for their own use.

17. This Slave Trade has been this year checked for the first time on this coast by

Her Majesty's ships "Lyra" and "Sidon," which have together captured twenty-five vessels engaged in it, and redeemed a large number of slaves; if the blow it has received be followed up by active measures next year, it will prevent most of the piratical tribes of the Persian Gulf from coming to this coast in future, and thus put a stop to at least half the Traffic in Slaves on the East Coast of Africa. I trust that the day is approaching when the export of slaves from the East Coast of Africa will be entirely prohibited, for not only is this traffic a curse to Africa, and fast draining a fine fruitful country of its inhabitants, but it is equally a curse to the Island of Zanzibar, checking legitimate trade, and rendering the Arab population most degraded, idle, and sensual.

18. Until the export is entirely put a stop to, I am of opinion that the measures adopted to check the Traffic in Slaves with the Persian Gulf and coasts of Arabia should be entirely directed to the coasts of Africa. If two steam gun-boats were stationed at Zanzibar during the months of March and April, and also during the months of September and October, scarcely a vessel could escape; during the other months native vessels cannot go north, owing to the winds. Probably in two years this trade would be entirely stopped, and the piratical Arabs of the Gulf would find some more profitable occupation than coming to this coast for slaves. No place on the East Coast is so well adapted as a station for vessels employed in checking the Slave Trade as Zanzibar, owing to the presence of a British Consul, and so many British subjects engaged in commerce who have correspondents at every place on the coast: information can always be obtained relative to the movements of slave-ships.

19. The experience of many years has proved that the efforts of the British cruisers in the Persian Gulf and on the coasts of Arabia to check this traffic have met with very little success, and from the open manner in which it is carried on, it is evident that the risk of capture in the Gulf is scarcely regarded at all by those engaged in it, and that all the Maritime Chiefs connive at it, and some of them send their own agents here to purchase slaves. I believe that not even 1 per cent. of the slaves taken north every year are captured by the British cruisers.

20. A further reason in favour of making the chief efforts for the suppression of this traffic on the coast of Africa instead of on the coast of Arabia, or in the Persian Gulf, is the suffering and mortality among the slaves before they reach the latter coasts. A dhow which was captured by Her Majesty's ship "Lyra," only a few hours after it had quitted this harbour with 105 slaves on board, was so unbearable from the stench, that every man of the "Lyra" who went on board it to take out the slaves' provisions was immediately taken ill, and the surgeon procured the immediate destruction of the dhow. Had this vessel not been captured, in all probability not one slave would have survived the voyage to Arabia. In addition to this the Arabs frequently cut the throats of all the slaves, and throw the bodies overboard, if they meet a Government vessel out at sea. The captured slaves are also more easily disposed of at the Mauritius, Seychelles, and Port Natal, than if taken to Bombay.

21. The Zanzibar Arabs are fully prepared to expect the entire abolition of the Slave Trade as a circumstance they cannot avert; they have had the experience of the emancipation of all the slaves (in number 5,891 up to this day) belonging to British subjects in the Zanzibar dominions, and they perceive that their interests are in no way injuriously affected by it, and that their plantations are as well tilled by free labourers as before by slaves.

No. 98.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 13.)

(Extract.)

Zanzibar, July 12, 1861.

BEFORE the slave agent Buona Ventura Mas absconded from this island last year, and whilst he was engaged in procuring cargoes of slaves for the five vessels which he was expecting consigned to him from the Havana, he advanced a sum of 4,000 dollars to an Arab from the coast of Oman, by name Ahmed bin Mubarik el Sooree, for the purpose of purchasing slaves on his (Mas's) account at the port of Keelwa, the chief slave-mart on the East Coast of Africa, and the destination of all the slave-caravans from the great Lake of Nyassa. Ahmed bin Mubarik purchased the slaves and brought them to Zanzibar. Finding that Mas had left the island, he took them to Lamoo, to which place Mas had proceeded on escaping from Zanzibar, and where he also carried on an extensive Traffic in Slaves. Finding that Mas had been deported from Lamoo, by order of the Sultan, he took the slaves to the port of Maculla, on the south coast of Arabia, and there sold them.

No. 99.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 13.)

My Lord,

Zanzibar, July 26, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch to my address, dated February 19, 1861, directing me to suggest to His Highness the Sultan that orders should be given by him, prohibiting, under severe penalties, the transport of slaves coastwise, from one portion of his dominions to the other; and also to propose to His Highness that he should conclude an Additional Article to the Treaty between Zanzibar and Great Britain, by which the Commanders of British cruisers should be authorized to seize and detain all vessels under the Zanzibar flag engaged in the coasting trade, on board of which slaves may be discovered.

2. I received the above despatch on the 30th of May last, and the following day I waited on His Highness, and communicated the purport of it to him; and I pointed out to him that the former Treaties entered into by the late Imaum with the British Government to put a stop to the export of slaves from his African dominions, had been rendered nugatory in consequence of all the Arabs of Zanzibar continuing to export, every year, thousands of slaves without any check whatever. I told him that in the Portuguese dominions, on both coasts of Africa, the transport of slaves coastwise was prohibited, and that after fifteen years have elapsed all slaves in any Portuguese territories will be free. I also told him that the Sultan of Turkey and the Shah of Persia have forbidden the Traffic in Negroes, and therefore I trusted that he would not hesitate to comply with the wishes of the British Government to effectually put a stop to the extensive export of slaves from his ports on the African coast. His Highness replied, that so far as regarded himself he was well aware of the evils and miseries of the Slave Trade, and would prefer that no man in his dominions should be a slave, but that the Arabs here are very jealous of any interference in the Traffic. He further said that he thought there could be no difficulty in complying with your Lordship's request, provided that slaves might still be brought to the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba from the mainland. I told him that the permission to continue taking slaves to the Island of Pemba would only perpetuate the evil it was the object of your Lordship to eradicate, and that if he were willing to comply with the request, or with the exception of the permission to continue the import of slaves into the Island of Zanzibar alone, I begged that he would communicate to me his wishes in writing for submission to your Lordship. On my taking leave His Highness said that he would consider the subject, and write to me regarding it.

3. A few days afterwards I again waited on His Highness, and talked with him on the subject; and requested him to give me an answer in writing, and he again promised to do so.

4. Shortly after this His Highness was taken ill, and for some time was unable to attend to any business. On his recovery, I again pressed him for an answer, and received similar evasive replies. As a vessel is about to leave this port for Aden this day, I called on His Highness three days ago, and told him that two months have elapsed since I communicated to him a letter from Her Majesty's Government, and that your Lordship would expect an answer. His Highness being aware that I have applied for leave to proceed to Europe on medical certificate, and am daily expecting the arrival of an officer from Bombay to relieve me, said that he would send an answer to your Lordship by me when I proceeded to England. I told him that my departure is uncertain, and that I must beg him to give me an answer without any further delay. He then promised to do so during that day; but he failed to keep his promise, and has sent me a letter at 11 o'clock A.M., to-day, knowing that the vessel for Aden sails at mid-day. A translation of His Highness' letter is herewith inclosed.

5. His Highness has evidently delayed sending me an answer until just as the vessel is starting, in order to prevent my having an opportunity of remonstrating with him on his having replied in terms so entirely at variance with those I had been led to expect from his conversation on the subject. I shall not fail, however, to impress on His Highness the propriety and necessity of his compliance with the request made to him, and I trust that he will be induced to do so.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

Inclosure in No. 99.

The Sultan of Zanzibar to Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby.

(Translation.)

(After compliments.)

RESPECTING what you mentioned to me regarding the desire of the Right Honourable Lord John Russell, Her Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, that I should prohibit the transport of slaves from Keelwa to my possessions on the coast of Africa, within the limits in which it was permitted by the Treaty concluded between my late father Sayyid Said Ben Sultan and Her Majesty the Queen, including the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba; my friend, it is my wish to comply with all the desires of the British Government, but these countries cannot do without slaves, they differ from other countries, and you are fully acquainted with the circumstances of these parts, and that when the slaves of the Hindees (*i. e.*, the Mahometan natives of India) and of the Banians (*i. e.*, the Hindoo natives of India) were emancipated it cau sed great injury to these countries, and a decrease, in the trade, and put a stop to business, and caused a decrease in the import revenue, and impoverished the people and made them bankrupt; and if I put a stop to the Traffic in Slaves it will ruin these countries, and it will ruin my subjects; and I am certain that the British Government would never agree to this—for the British Government is far off, and is ignorant of the circumstances of these countries.

Written on the 17th day of the month Mohurram, in the year 1278 of the Hegira, corresponding to July 25, A.D. 1861.

(The seal of His Highness Sayyid Majid bin Said,
Sultan of Zanzibar.)

No. 100.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Earl Russell.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Lamoo, October 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 7th June, 1861, with inclosure, relative to a party of Makololo Africans, who in the latter part of the year 1855 left their country under the guidance of an Arab, by name, Said bin Habeeb bin Salem Lafifi, to trade on the Western Coast of Africa, none of whom have since returned to their homes, and it is suspected that they have been sold into slavery by the Arab Said bin Habeeb.

2. This Arab returned to Zanzibar in the year 1860; he was not accompanied by any Makololo Africans, and although he frequently called on me, he never alluded to them. He remained a short time at Zanzibar, and then left to return to the country of the Casembi, situated to the west of the great Lake of Nyassa, and about four months' journey from the East Coast. He informed me that his father was residing there, and that he should return there to settle: he had married the daughter of an African Chief.

3. Some months ago I received a private letter from Dr. Livingstone, requesting me to make inquiries on this subject, and I did so, and also applied to His Highness the Sultan for information. He replied that he had never heard of such people, and that Said bin Habeeb is now residing far beyond the reach of his authority.

4. I think it very doubtful whether Said bin Habeeb will ever return to Zanzibar: should he do so at any future time, he will be called on to explain what has become of these men. I think it very probable that he enticed them to Mozambique or Quillimane, and sold them to the French slave-agents, as he returned to Zanzibar from the south of the Lake Nyassa, and on his journey some of his party met Dr. Livingstone near Lake Shirwa, and none of the Makololo were then with him.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

No. 101.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Earl Russell.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Lamoo, October 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated 20th May, 1861, instructing me to acquaint His Highness the Sultan Sayyid Majid

of Zanzibar, that my conduct in demanding the instant dismissal of Sayyid Saood bin Hillal from the Governorship of Lamoo, for his conduct towards Salim Jubran, has been entirely approved by Her Majesty's Government, and that Her Majesty's Government will hold the local authorities responsible for any injuries that may be committed, either upon Salim Jubran, or on any other person who may be employed in furnishing myself or Her Majesty's naval officers with information respecting the Slave Trade.

2. The above despatch had been sent from Aden by the French ship "Vidal," which was wrecked off Lamoo about two months ago, and I therefore only received it on my arrival here on the 1st instant; I will in consequence forward it to my successor at Zanzibar by the earliest opportunity, in order that your Lordship's instructions may be communicated to His Highness the Sultan.

3. On my arrival off Lamoo on board Her Majesty's ship "Gorgon," I was much surprised to find that Sayyid Saood bin Hillal had reassumed the office of Governor of Lamoo; and I was informed that the very day after my departure from Zanzibar on board Her Majesty's ship "Gorgon," His Highness the Sultan had despatched Sayyid Saood as Governor to Lamoo on board one of his ships of war.

4. During the time that Sayyid Saood was previously Governor of Lamoo, and subsequent to his outrageous conduct in seizing and binding with cords in open day Salim bin Jubran, and openly boasting of his intention to put him to death for giving me information about the Slave Traffic carried on by Buona Ventura Mas, he seized and kept in confinement for a period of four months a man by name Hajee Noor, solely because he was proceeding to the country inhabited by the Abghal tribes of Somalis, to inquire after the supposed survivors of the wreck of the British ship "St. Abbs." I had provided Hajee Noor with several copies of the printed Proclamation in the English and French languages, issued by the Government of Mauritius relative to the supposed captives, and I also gave him several copies of a Proclamation in the Arabic language relative to them. The Mauritius Proclamation was surmounted by Her Majesty's Royal Arms, and the Arabic Proclamation was sealed with the official seal of the Zanzibar Consulate. Sayyid Saood, then Governor of Lamoo, took all these papers from Hajee Noor, and destroyed them. Owing to the unfrequent communication, I did not hear of this gross outrage for four months; I then called on His Highness the Sultan, and denounced the conduct of Sayyid Saood in the strongest terms. The Consul of the United States also remonstrated with His Highness earnestly on the impropriety of employing Sayyid Saood in any office of responsibility.

The principal firm of Hamburgh merchants at Zanzibar, Messrs. O'Swald and Co., had sent one of their vessels to Lamoo to purchase cargo, at the time Sayyid Saood was Governor there. On its arrival he issued a notice forbidding the inhabitants to sell any goods or produce to Messrs. O'Swald, until they had first offered them to Buona Ventura Mas, the slave-agent.

On one occasion Sayyid Saood put to death an inhabitant of Lamoo without any trial, for not coming quick enough when summoned to appear before him.

The Arab Munshee of the Consulate, whom I despatched to Lamoo to ascertain the truth of Hajee Noor's treatment, reported to me that Sayyid Saood had provided 300 slaves for the Spanish ship "*Formosa Estrella*," and when that vessel was seized, he sent these slaves to Tula and sold them to northern slave-dealers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

No. 102.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Earl Russell.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Lamoo, October 5, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch to your Lordship's address dated the 27th of July, 1861, inclosing a translation of an Arabic letter I had that day received from His Highness Sayyid Majid, Sultan of Zanzibar, declining to comply with your Lordship's request that he should consent to a modification of his Treaties with Her Majesty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, so as to authorize Her Majesty's ships to seize and detain any vessels under his flag found transporting slaves coastwise within his dominions; I have the honour to state that the following morning I called on His Highness and remonstrated with him on his refusal, and on his having sent me an answer to your Lordship's despatch so entirely at variance with what he had repeatedly promised to send.

2. On this occasion I took with me several copies, in Arabic, of a translation of part
CLASS B.

of a despatch addressed several years ago to Lieutenant-Colonel Hamerton by Viscount Palmerston, instructing him to inform His Highness the late Imaum, that the Traffic in Slaves carried on by his subjects was doomed to destruction, and that Great Britain was the chief instrument in the hands of Providence for the accomplishment of this object, and that it is useless for these Arabs to oppose what is written in the book of fate, and that if they persisted in the continuance of this Traffic it would involve them in trouble and losses, and they had, therefore, better submit to the will of Providence, and abandon this Traffic, and cultivate their soil, and engage in lawful commerce.

3. I distributed these copies among the chief Arabs present, and I told His Highness that the Treaties which had been entered into several years ago for the suppression of the export of slaves to the coasts of Arabia and Persia had never been regarded in the very slightest degree by the authorities or subjects of Zanzibar, and that although many thousands of slaves are annually exported from Zanzibar to the North, and that the Traffic is openly carried on by all the chief Arabs at Zanzibar, I had never heard of a single instance of a person being punished, according to the Articles of the Treaty of 1847, for being engaged in this Traffic. I told His Highness that a continuance of this cruel Traffic in human beings could no longer be permitted, and that Her Majesty's Government would certainly insist on the faithful observance of Treaty engagements.

4. I also alluded to the impropriety of His Highness stating in his letter that the emancipation of the slaves illegally held in slavery by the British-Indian subjects residing in the Zanzibar dominions had caused ruin and destruction of trade, such statement being, as His Highness is fully aware, entirely unfounded.

5. I also took with me on this occasion a copy of the "Evening Mail" of the 27th of February, which had just reached me, containing a report of the debate in Parliament on Slave Trade; and in order to show the results which had been accomplished by the efforts of the British Government to put a stop to the export of slaves in other parts of Africa, and the importance which was attached to this subject by Her Majesty's Government, and by the British nation, I translated to His Highness, sentence by sentence, the speeches of Viscount Palmerston and your Lordship.

6. As His Highness had stated that Arabs could not do without slaves, and that the stoppage of their import would ruin his subjects, I translated to His Highness the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade between the Sultan of Johanna and Her Majesty, and I pointed out to him that here was an island, with an Arab population, and a climate and productions very similar to those of Zanzibar; that the Sultan had faithfully fulfilled his Treaty engagements, and that instead of the abolition of the Slave Trade having proved injurious, the trade and wealth of Johanna were annually increasing.

7. His Highness begged me not to consider his letter as his real answer to your Lordship's request, adding, "You know it is an Arab custom to always give an evasive answer at first, and not to comply with anything requested without the appearance of refusal at first." I replied that I had been very much astonished at receiving such a letter from His Highness, and that I felt certain that it would be very displeasing to your Lordship, and that Her Majesty's Government would certainly not be satisfied with such a reply made on behalf of Her Majesty. He then said that as I was going to leave myself soon (I had forwarded a medical certificate to Bombay nearly four months previously), he would send your Lordship a satisfactory answer by me. I said, "Your Highness, to be satisfactory to Her Majesty's Government it must be very different to that which you sent me yesterday." He replied, "Inshallah, it will satisfy all that the English Government desire me to do."

8. On the 1st of September Her Majesty's ship "Gorgon" arrived at Zanzibar, and as I was suffering from severe ill-health, I arranged to take a trip on board. I therefore called on His Highness, in company with Commander Wilson, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ship "Gorgon;" we remained about two hours conversing with His Highness, chiefly on the subject of the Slave Trade, and, on taking leave, His Highness promised in a solemn manner to send me his promised reply to your Lordship; but up to the time of the departure of the "Gorgon," I received no letter or communication of any sort from His Highness, and I ascertained that His Highness had not given any instructions to his Secretary to prepare a letter, and had no intention of sending any answer. And his bad faith and disregard of the advice of the British Government were shown by his sending Sayyid Saood as Governor to Lamoo directly after the departure of the "Gorgon."

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

No. 103.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rigby to Earl Russell.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord,

Lamoo, October 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of your Lordship, that the Slave Trade is being carried on as actively as usual at the Fort of Ibo, in the Portuguese territories of Mozambique.

2. The Traffic is so profitable to the Portuguese officials at that port, and the successive Governors so speedily acquire a competence from the bribes they receive for permitting this Traffic, that they appear to care for no representations made respecting it. I know of one instance in which the Governor of Ibo paid a bribe of 500 crowns to an Arab of Zanzibar, who was serving on board one of Her Majesty's ships as interpreter, to induce him to withhold information of the supercargoes of slavers being then in the town.

3. Shortly before my departure from Zanzibar, I was informed by a person who had just arrived from Ibo, that 600 slaves were confined in the Fort of Ibo, ironed like convicts, awaiting the arrival of a Spanish ship to embark them.

4. I have also reason to believe that the Slave Trade will be extensively resumed from Quillimane, as a Portuguese who resides there, by name De Cruz, who is the chief person there, and whose slave-dealings have been already reported by Dr. Livingstone, as appears from the papers on the Slave Trade laid before Parliament during the session of 1860, was recently at Zanzibar; and having incurred heavy losses by chartering ships at Calcutta, openly boasted that he could soon make good such loss by the sale of 4,000 slaves which he possessed at Quillimane. This person recently purchased a Sardinian brig, and I have no doubt it is intended to transport slaves. De Cruz has taken cargoes of his slaves to Réunion, and there sold them as free engagés some time ago.

5. A brig under the Spanish flag, with no name painted on any part of the hull, but called the "Caridad," has been for some time employed in the Mozambique Channel as a tender to several large slave-ships; she carries the money for the purchase of the slaves, and makes the bargains on the coast for them to be supplied. The slaves are now generally sent to some point agreed upon beforehand on the coast of Madagascar. A great many are embarked in dhows in the harbour of Mozambique, and do not seem to fear any interference on the part of the Portuguese authorities.

6. Whenever the "Caridad" visits Zanzibar, her commander, a Spaniard, by name Igorra, refuses to show any papers to the local authorities, saying that he is under French protection. The United States' Consul told me that the provisions found on board a large slaver which was captured off the Island of Monfe by Her Majesty's ship "Lyra," had been sold by his firm to the "Caridad" during the visit of that vessel to Zanzibar.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. P. RIGBY.

PORTUGAL.

No. 104.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 1, 1861.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, December 26, 1860.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant to your Lordship, I have the honour to inclose herewith translation of a note of the 18th of this month, which I have received from M. d'Avila, informing me that he was about to write officially to the Minister of Marine in order that the proper measures might be taken to cause the punishment of such persons as might be found implicated in the Slave Trade operations said to be carried on in the Portuguese possessions on the East Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 104.

Senhor d'Avila to Sir A. Magenis.

(Translation.)

Palace, December 18, 1860.

I HAD the honour to receive the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of the 14th instant, relative to the Slave Trade operations said to be carried on in the Portuguese possessions on the East Coast of Africa, with the connivance of the resident authorities; and in taking cognizance of your said note, I am about to write officially to the Minister of Marine in order that he may take such measures in this respect as may appear to him most appropriate, and to cause the punishment of such as may be found implicated in this Traffic.

I will duly and opportunely inform you of his Excellency's reply to my communication.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO JOSE D'AVILA.

No. 105.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 22.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, February 16, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th of December last, relating to the subject of certain Slave Trade operations carried on in the Portuguese possessions on the East Coast of Africa, and inclosing to your Lordship a note from M. d'Avila, in which he states his intention of moving the Minister of Marine to take such steps as might lead to the punishment of such persons as may be found implicated in the above-mentioned Slave Trade operations, I have now the honour of inclosing a translation of a further note upon this subject which I have received from M. d'Avila under date of the 9th instant.

In this note, as your Lordship will perceive, his Excellency quotes from a despatch received by him from the Minister of Marine, to the effect that strict vigilance will be again enjoined upon the Governor of Mozambique; and although His Most Faithful Majesty's Government do not doubt that such speculations may have been attempted, owing to the difficulty of watching such an extent of coast, yet they cannot admit the accusation of connivance on the part of the Portuguese authorities, and more especially on the part of the Governor of Mozambique, who stands high in the confidence of His Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 105.

Senhor d'Avila to Sir A. Magenis.

(Translation.)

Palace, February 9, 1861.

WITH reference to the note which you were pleased to address to me under date of the 14th of December last, relative to certain Slave Trade operations said to have been effected in the Portuguese possessions on the East Coast of Africa, in connivance with the local authorities, I have the honour to communicate to you, in addition to my note of the 18th of that month, that the Minister of Marine has addressed me on this subject in a despatch dated the 29th of January last.

In this despatch his Excellency states to me, that although he had already instructed the Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique, on the occasion of a former note from you dated the 5th of December last, to take every measure and precaution in his power for putting a stop to that odious Traffic, yet he would again repeat the same instruction to the said Governor-General.

His Excellency further remarks, that His Majesty's Government do not doubt that such speculations may have been attempted at some points of the said possessions, inasmuch as the great extent of that coast renders a strict supervision very difficult, as has been admitted even by the English cruizers; what, however, they consider unfounded is, the accusation of connivance on the part of the Portuguese authorities in the Traffic in Slaves, and especially that which in your above-mentioned note appears to be brought against the Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique, who is one of the officers who has always merited the confidence of His Majesty's Government for his upright and honourable character, and whose zeal and vigilance over his subordinates has never been questioned.

I renew, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO JOSE D'AVILA.

No. 106.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 16, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter from Commander Oldfield, of Her Majesty's ship "Lyra,"* which has been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, reporting upon the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa.

You will perceive from this letter not only that the Slave Trade is stated to be carried on to a considerable extent from the Portuguese possessions on the East Coast, but also that the Governors of Ibo and Quillimane are notoriously engaged in aiding and assisting in the traffic, and further that it is more than suspected that the Governor-General of Mozambique is himself in collusion with the slave-dealers, and that he has received large sums of money on several occasions for conniving at the dereliction of duty on the part of his subordinates.

Her Majesty's Government feel that they would not be acting in good faith towards the Portuguese Government, if they did not at once communicate to them the reports which have reached them, so seriously affecting the character of the highest Portuguese authorities on the East Coast of Africa, and I have accordingly to instruct you to communicate the substance of Commander Oldfield's letter to the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs.

In the note addressed to you by Senhor d'Avila on the 9th of February last, a copy of which was inclosed in your despatch of the 16th of that month, the Portuguese Minister stated that the Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique is one of the officers who has always merited the confidence of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government for his honourable character, and whose zeal and vigilance over his subordinates has never been questioned.

Her Majesty's Government would much regret that charges of so serious a nature as those contained in Commander Oldfield's report should be brought against Portuguese officers without sufficient foundation; but of the fact of the shipment of considerable numbers of slaves from the Portuguese possessions there can be no doubt, and it is difficult to conceive that these shipments could have taken place without the knowledge and connivance of the Portuguese authorities.

You will inform the Portuguese Government that the Commander-in-chief of Her

* Class A, No. 98.

Majesty's naval forces on the African station will be directed to use his best endeavours to ascertain whether the reports of the connivance of the Portuguese authorities in the Mozambique with the slave-dealers are well founded; and if this should turn out to be the case, Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty will take immediate steps for the removal and punishment of the offending officers.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 107.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 30, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith an extract of a despatch from Sir Henry Huntley, Her Majesty's Arbitrator in the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda,* reporting the circumstances under which some slaves were discovered secreted on board the Portuguese brigantine "Equimina" in the harbour of Loanda, and containing some observations with regard to the want of watchfulness on the part of the authorities of the port as evinced in the case of this vessel.

I also inclose a copy of a further despatch from Sir Henry Huntley,† reporting the destruction of two lanchas and capture of thirty-three negroes, said to belong to Senhor Pamplona, and bearing testimony to the zeal and energy with which Senhor Franco Vellar de Pinho, the Commander of the Portuguese cruiser "Dom Pedro V," has for some considerable time harassed the operations of the slave-traders in the neighbourhood of the Congo river.

I have to instruct you to express to the Portuguese Minister the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the activity of the Portuguese cruisers in the suppression of the Slave Trade, and more particularly of the Commander of the "Dom Pedro V;" and you will at the same time call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the apparent apathy of the authorities in the case of the "Equimina."

I have further to instruct you to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact, that the slaves captured by Senhor de Pinho, are represented to have belonged to Senhor Pamplona, and you will state that if the result of the investigations which will doubtless take place with regard to these slaves should prove this to be the case, Her Majesty's Government trust that this notorious slave-dealer will not be allowed to return to any of the Portuguese African possessions, and that steps may be taken for his punishment in the event of his returning within Portuguese jurisdiction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 108.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 17, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a despatch‡ from Colonel Rigby, Her Majesty's Consul and Agent at Zanzibar, to the Secretary of State for India, containing information relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on from the East Coast of Africa.

You will perceive from this despatch that a notorious slave-agent, a Spaniard, by name Buona Ventura Mas, has been expelled by the Sultan of Zanzibar from his dominions, and as Mas is known to be extensively engaged in the Slave Trade which is carried on from the East Coast, it is more than probable that he will endeavour to take up his quarters in some of the Portuguese Possessions in Eastern Africa, with the view to carry on his designs from thence.

I have accordingly to instruct you to make known to the Portuguese Government the character of this individual, and you will request that the Portuguese authorities in the Mozambique may be instructed not to allow him to take up his residence in the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast of Africa.

M. Buona Ventura Mas is the same individual with regard to whom a correspondence

* Class A, No. 27.

† Ibid., No. 28.

‡ No. 90.

took place last year between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of the French, which you will find at pages 56, 57, and 58 in the Slave Trade Papers presented to Parliament during the last session; but Her Majesty's Government have been informed that he is no longer in the employment of the French Consulate at Zanzibar, nor under French protection.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 109.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 22, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you, herewith, an extract of a letter from Captain Crawford, of Her Majesty's ship "Sidon,"* which has been communicated to me by the Admiralty, reporting the capture by that vessel of an Arab dhow, with 272 slaves on board.

I have to instruct you to communicate the particulars of this capture to the Portuguese Government, and in doing so you will state that Her Majesty's Government think it right to call the attention of the Portuguese Minister to the fact that the captured vessel was furnished with a Portuguese clearance from Mozambique, from which port she sailed only a few days before she was captured, and it appears to Her Majesty's Government that if the Portuguese authorities had been on the alert, they could not have failed to discover some evidence of the illegal character of the voyage on which the dhow was about to be engaged.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 110.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 22.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, May 15, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 12th instant, by the steam-packet "Tagus," of your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, and to inclose herewith copy of a note which, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions, I addressed on the 14th instant to M. d'Avila on the subject of it.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 110.

Sir A. Magenis to Senhor d'Avila.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, May 14, 1861.

IN obedience to the instructions which I have received from Lord John Russell, I have the honour to express to your Excellency the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt the activity of the Portuguese cruizers in the suppression of the Slave Trade; and more particularly of the Commander of the "Dom Pedro V," Senhor Franco Villar de Pinho, who has for some considerable time harassed the operations of the slave-traders in the neighbourhood of the Congo river.

I am at the same time instructed to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the apparent apathy of the local authorities of Loanda, as evinced in the case of the "Equimina," whose seizure Her Majesty's Government are informed was based upon mere accident, rather than upon a well-organized system of observation.

I am further instructed to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact that the slaves captured by Senhor de Pinho are represented to have belonged to Senhor Pamplona, who is now in the United States for the purpose, it is said, of residing there a sufficient period to enable him to claim naturalization papers, and then return to Loanda; and to state to your Excellency that if the result of the investigations which will doubtless take place with regard to these slaves should prove this to be the case, Her Majesty's Government trust that this notorious slave-dealer will not be allowed to return to any of the Portuguese African possessions, and that steps may be taken for his punishment in the event of his returning within Portuguese jurisdiction.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

No. 111.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 17th ultimo, I addressed on the 1st instant to M. d'Avila, informing him of the character of M. Buona Ventura Mas, with a view that he might not be allowed to take up his residence in the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 111.

Sir A. Magenis to Senhor d'Avila.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, June 1, 1861.

HER Majesty's Government have received information from Colonel Rigby, Her Majesty's Consul and Agent at Zanzibar, relative to the Slave Trade which is carried on from the East Coast of Africa.

From this information it appears that a notorious slave-agent, a Spaniard, by name Buona Ventura Mas, has been expelled by the Sultan of Zanzibar from his dominions, and as Mas is known to be extensively engaged in the Slave Trade which is carried on from the East Coast, it is more than probable that he will endeavour to take up his quarters in some of the Portuguese Possessions in Eastern Africa, with a view to carry on his designs from thence.

I have accordingly been instructed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to make known to your Excellency the character of this individual, and to request that the Portuguese Government will instruct their authorities on the Mozambique not to allow him to take up his residence in the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast of Africa.

M. Buona Ventura Mas is the same individual with regard to whom a correspondence took place last year between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of the French; and Her Majesty's Government have been informed that he is no longer in the employment of the French Consulate at Zanzibar, nor under French protection.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

No. 112.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received June 13.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, June 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 22nd ultimo, I addressed on the 1st instant to M. d'Avila, calling his Excellency's attention to certain facts regarding the capture, by Her Majesty's ship "Sidon," of an Arab dhow, with 272 slaves on board.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 112.

Sir A. Magenis to Senhor d'Avila.

M. le Ministre,

Lisbon, June 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Excellency an extract of a letter from Captain Crawford, of Her Majesty's ship "Sidon," reporting the capture by that vessel of an Arab dhow with 272 slaves on board.

In making this communication I have been instructed by Lord John Russell to state

that Her Majesty's Government think it right to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the fact that the captured vessel was furnished with a Portuguese clearance from Mozambique, from which port she sailed only a few days before she was captured; and it appears to Her Majesty's Government that if the Portuguese authorities had been on the alert they would not have failed to discover some evidence of the illegal character of the voyage on which the dhow was about to be engaged.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

No. 113.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 12.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 4, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 5th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship translation of a note dated the 27th ultimo, from M. d'Avila, in which his Excellency informs me that the necessary orders have been transmitted to the Governor-General of Mozambique, to prevent, by all the means in his power, Buonaventura Mas from establishing himself in any of the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast of Africa, with the object of continuing his Slave Trade transactions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 113.

Senhor d'Avila to Sir A. Magenis.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, June 27, 1861.

WITH reference to the note which I addressed to you on the 4th instant, concerning the request which, by order of your Government, you made to me relative to the Spanish subject Boaventura Mas, I have the honour to inform you that, according to a communication which I received yesterday from the Minister of Marine, the necessary orders have been transmitted to the Governor-General of the Province of Mozambique to prevent, by all the means in his power, the above-mentioned Mas from establishing himself in any of the Portuguese Possessions on the East Coast of Africa, with the object of continuing his Slave Trade transactions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ANTONIO JOSE D'AVILA.

No. 114.

Sir A. Magenis to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 12.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, July 6, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th of May last, I have the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship translation of a note, dated the 3rd instant, from M. d'Avila, in which his Excellency informs me that the Minister of Marine has transmitted to the Governor-General of Angola the necessary orders to prevent the slave-dealer Pamplona from establishing himself in that Province.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

Inclosure in No. 114.

Senhor d'Avila to Sir A. Magenis.

(Translation.)

Lisbon, July 3, 1861.

IN addition to the note which I addressed to you on the 21st of May last, with reference to yours of the 14th, manifesting the satisfaction of your Government at the good services rendered by the Portuguese cruizers on the West Coast of Africa in the suppression of the Slave Trade, and requesting that the authorities of Loanda might be recommended

CLASS B.

to be more active, and that the necessary measures might be taken to prevent the slave-dealer Pamplona from establishing himself in that Province, I have the honour to inform you that the Minister of Marine communicated to me, under date of the 28th of June last, that he had on that day transmitted to the Governor-General of Angola a translation of your above-mentioned note, ordering him at the same time to adopt all the measures in the sense of that note.

I avail, &c.
(Signed) ANTONIO JOSE D'AVILA.

No. 115.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 14, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, an extract of a despatch from Sir Henry Huntley, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner in the British and Portuguese Mixed Commission Court at Loanda,* inclosing a copy of a letter addressed by him to the Governor-General of Angola, calling his Excellency's attention to the frequent practice which has obtained of sending slaves, as domestic servants, by the Portuguese mail steamers, from the mainland to the Island of St. Thomas, under the representation of their being the property of passengers going there.

It is possible that Sir H. Huntley's suspicions that these slaves are intended subsequently to be exported from the island may be destitute of any foundation; but, on the other hand, the absence of any cruizers in the neighbourhood of the island may have induced the slave-dealers to endeavour to take advantage of this state of things, and it would, therefore, not be inopportune to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the matter.

I have accordingly to instruct you to take an opportunity of bringing the subject to the notice of the Portuguese Minister for the Colonies, with a view to such instructions being sent to the Governor of St. Thomas as the Portuguese Government may think proper.

I am &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 116.

Sir A. Magenis to Earl Russell.—(Received September 2.)

My Lord,

Lisbon, August 24, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, on the 21st instant, by steam-packet "Sultan," of your Lordship's despatch of the 14th instant, together with its inclosures, and in obedience to the instructions contained therein, I will not fail to take the first opportunity of calling the attention of the Portuguese Minister for the Colonies to the frequent practice of sending slaves as domestic servants by the Portuguese mail-steamers from Loanda to the Island of St. Thomas, under the representation of their being the property of passengers going there.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

No. 117.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Sir Baldwin Walker to the Secretary of the Admiralty,† reporting the capture and subsequent release by Her Majesty's ship "Wasp" of the Portuguese slave-vessel "Theresa."

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

* Class A, No. 35.

† Ibid., No. 104.

No. 118.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 15, 1861.*
 I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a Report upon the Slave Trade on the East Coast of Africa for the twelve months ended in the month of September last, which I have received from Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope.* With reference to that part of the Commissioners' despatch which relates to the alleged connivance of the Portuguese authorities in the export of slaves from the Portuguese possessions, I have to acquaint you that I have requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to instruct the Admiral on the Cape Station to make inquiries with the view to ascertain whether the statements contained in the Commissioners' Report are well founded.

You may make known unofficially to the Portuguese Minister the tenour of the Cape Commissioners' Report, but as Her Majesty's Government have every reason to believe that the Portuguese Government are in earnest in their endeavours to put a stop to the export of slaves from the Portuguese dominions, you will abstain, unless further instructed, from making any official representation on the subject to the Portuguese Minister.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 119.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, November 15, 1861.*
 WITH reference to my despatch of the 14th of August last, I inclose, for your information, a copy of a further despatch which I have received from Sir Henry Huntley, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda,† on the subject of the unusual frequency of the shipment of domestic slaves from that place to the Island of St. Thomas; and I have to instruct you to call the attention of the Portuguese Government to the facts reported by Sir Henry Huntley. You will ask the Portuguese Minister whether any information on the subject has been received by the Portuguese Government, and whether these emigrants to St. Thomas are *bond fide* free labourers.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 120.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir, *Foreign Office, December 6, 1861.*
 I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda, inclosing a copy of the joint Annual Report of the British and Portuguese Commissioners to their respective Governments on affairs connected with the Commission.‡

I am, &c.
 (Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 121.

Sir A. Magenis to Earl Russell.—(Received December 12.)

My Lord, *Lisbon, December 2, 1861.*
 I AVAILED myself of the opportunity of a conversation on the 28th ultimo with the Portuguese Minister for Foreign Affairs to bring to his Excellency's notice, unofficially, the cases mentioned in your Lordship's despatches of the 15th of November last, and I received his assurance that he would call the attention of his colleague the Minister for Marine and Colonies to the facts stated in the inclosures of those despatches by Her Majesty's Commissioners at the Cape of Good Hope, and by the Acting Commissioner at Loanda.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) ARTHUR C. MAGENIS.

* Class A, No. 25.

† Ibid., No. 43.

‡ Ibid., No. 53 and Inclosure.

No. 122.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 31, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of despatches as marked in the margin from Her Majesty's Commissioners at Loanda,* containing reports upon the cases of five small vessels brought for adjudication before the Mixed Commission Court established at that place on charge of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I also inclose a copy of the Annual Report of the Commissioners on the Slave Trade for the year ending the 30th of September last.†

These Reports show, first, that great facilities have been afforded to the operations of the slave-traders by small coasting craft not belonging to subjects of His Most Faithful Majesty, but furnished by the authorities at Loanda with Portuguese papers; and secondly, the extent to which Portuguese subjects are engaged in this Traffic.

Among the individuals shown to be actively engaged in the Slave Trade, are Senhor Luiz Leivas and Senhor Pamplona. The one is a nephew of the notorious slave-trader, Francisco Antonio Flores, to whom a large extent of land to the south of Loanda has been granted for the purpose of working copper-mines stated to exist in that locality; and the other, also notoriously known as a slave-dealer, is the person who on a former occasion when a launch belonging to him was detained by the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Viper," for irregularities in her papers, and on suspicion of being engaged in the Slave Trade, claimed compensation from Her Majesty's Government for the injuries which he alleged his character would suffer by reason of the unfounded imputations made against him.

You will find the correspondence relating to this affair at pages 192 to 202 (Class A) of the printed papers on the subject of the Slave Trade which were laid before Parliament in the session of 1860.

It will be seen, moreover, that two individuals named Antonio Alves and José Viera Borges, also Portuguese subjects, were actually found on board the "*Paquete de Moanda*," one of the captured vessels, when she was taken with slaves on board, several of whom, belonging to Senhor Pamplona, had been shipped in or near the harbour of Loanda; and although these persons are stated, in depositions made, to have assisted in the embarkation of a cargo of slaves on board an American brigantine, they were at the date of the Commander's despatch at large in the city of Loanda, having been admitted to bail when delivered up by the captors to the authorities at that place.

There is another matter which I adverted to in my despatch of the 15th of November last, and to which I have again to call your attention. I allude to the system which is stated to have recently sprung up, of shipping slaves from the Province of Loanda to the Island of St. Thomas under different denominations, sometimes as "domestic slaves" or "servants," at others as "libertos," and occasionally as "free negroes." No less than 415 of these negroes are stated to have been shipped from Loanda during the first nine months of the present year, and you will perceive from the Commissioners' Report on this subject that nearly all these negroes, although provided with passports from the Government of Loanda, and appearing in the list of passengers published in the "Boletim Official" as "pretos livres," are not free, but are only taken on board the vessels which convey them to St. Thomas on the plea of their being so, for the purpose of evading the penalties of the Treaty.

I have to instruct you to address a note to the Portuguese Government, founded on the papers now transmitted to you, showing the complicity of Portuguese subjects in Slave Traffic, and the evasions of the Treaty practised by the shipment of slaves under various pretexts to the Island of St. Thomas.

You will at the same time state, that while, on the one hand, Her Majesty's Government feel bound to believe that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty are acting in good faith, and are in earnest in their endeavours to suppress the Slave Trade, they are equally convinced, on the other hand, that the intentions of the Portuguese Government in this respect are not carried into effect by the Portuguese authorities.

The reports which have reached Her Majesty's Government leave little room to doubt that during the past year two vessels succeeded in shipping cargoes of slaves from the Portuguese territory to the southward of Loanda; and the impunity with which Portuguese subjects notoriously known to be engaged in the Slave Trade have hitherto escaped the punishment due to their crimes, even when, as in the case of the two individuals Alves and Borges, referred to in the former part of this despatch, they are in the hands of the Portuguese authorities, cannot but encourage them to continue their unlawful pursuits.

* Class A, Nos. 45, 46, 47, 48, and 49.

† Ibid., No. 55.

One of the most effective measures for the suppression of this Traffic would be the removal from the African Coast of those Portuguese subjects who are notoriously known to be engaged in the Slave Trade ; but whatever steps the Portuguese Government may think proper to take to vindicate their good faith in this matter, Her Majesty's Government feel that they are justified in requiring that some more stringent and effective measures than have hitherto been taken, should be adopted by the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty to prevent Portuguese subjects and authorities from engaging in or conniving at the Traffic in Slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 123.

Earl Russell to Sir A. Magenis.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 31, 1861.

IN my despatch of the 15th of November last, I instructed you to make known unofficially to the Portuguese Government the reports which had reached Her Majesty's Government of the connivance of the Portuguese authorities on the East Coast of Africa at the export of slaves from the Portuguese possessions on that coast. I have since received further information from Her Majesty's Consul at Zanzibar, and from the Admiral in command of Her Majesty's naval forces on the Cape Station, which, I regret to say, confirms the former advices received by Her Majesty's Government on this subject, and I inclose, for your information, copies of the reports in question.*

I have to desire that you will communicate the substance of these papers, as well as of the Report from the Cape Commissioners which accompanied my despatch of the 15th of November last before referred to, to the Portuguese Government, and that you will state that Her Majesty's Government do not doubt that the Government of His Most Faithful Majesty will take immediate steps for the removal and punishment of those authorities who, in violation of the orders of their Government, have been guilty of conniving at the Traffic in Slaves.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

* No. 103; and Class A, No. 106.

PORTUGAL. (*Consular*)—*Cape Verds.*

No. 124.

Consul Miller to Lord J. Russell.—(*Received March 9.*)

My Lord,

St. Vincent, Cape Verd Islands, February 21, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to state that I have just received information that the American brig called the "*Falmouth*," which vessel was a short time since seized at the port of Villa da Praya in the adjacent island of St. Jago, by one of the United States' vessels of war, for being engaged in the Slave Trade, and was sent to the United States for adjudication, has again arrived at the above port, and is still lying there. From circumstances which have occurred, there are grounds for suspicion that the "*Falmouth*" is now upon a slave-trading voyage. This vessel has arrived from the coast of Africa, where the captain remains, whilst the person in charge of the brig is receiving on board a quantity of water-casks and provisions, purchased at Villa da Praya, and it is the general opinion there that the vessel will proceed to the coast of Africa for the purpose of shipping slaves.

I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS MILLER.

No. 125.

Lord J. Russell to Consul Miller.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, April 15, 1861.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 21st of February last, reporting the reappearance at the port of Villa da Praya of the "*Falmouth*," and stating that she is still suspected of being about to engage in the Slave Trade, I have to desire that you will report to me whether the attention of the authorities at St. Vincent was called to the movements of this vessel, and, if so, what steps were taken by them in the matter.

No. 126.

Consul Miller to Lord J. Russell.—(*Received June 7.*)

(Extract.)

St. Vincent, Cape Verd Islands, May 22, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 15th April ultimo, wherein your Lordship requires me to report whether the attention of the authorities of St. Vincent was called to the movements of the American vessel "*Falmouth*," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to explain that this vessel did not touch at this port; but was anchored at the port of Porto Praya, in the Island of St. Jago, one of the leeward islands of this group; therefore I had no opportunity of communicating with the authorities of this place on the subject before the departure of the "*Falmouth*."

I forwarded intelligence to Her Majesty's Commissioners of the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda, by the earliest opportunity, of the "*Falmouth*" having touched at St. Jago, and I have received a reply to my letter from Sir H. V. Huntley, and I beg to transmit herewith a copy of his letter.

Inclosure in No. 126.

Sir H. Huntley to Consul Miller.

Sir, *Loanda, April 22, 1861.*
I BEG leave to thank you for the information you have given me with reference to the proceedings of the American brig "*Falmouth*," lately lying in the Bay of Porto Praya, Island of St. Jago.

There can be little doubt of the intentions of this well-known vessel, and I shall not fail to promulgate the information which you have favoured me with in the proper direction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. V. HUNTLEY.

SPAIN.

No. 127.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, January 11, 1861.

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 matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 128.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 23.)

My Lord,

Madrid, January 14, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 17th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith the translation of a note which I have received from Marshal O'Donnell, informing me that he has forwarded to the Colonial Department my note to his Excellency of which I inclosed a copy to your Lordship in my despatch above referred to, and in which I expressed the hope of Her Majesty's Government that certain persons implicated in slave-trading in Cuba would be punished as their crimes deserve.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 128.

Marshal O'Donnell to Sir A. Buchanan.

(Translation.)

Sir,

The Palace, January 12, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, on the 4th instant, I forwarded the note which you were pleased to address to me on the 17th of December of last year, to the General Board of Directors of the Colonies, in order that the proper steps might be taken thereon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LEOPOLD O'DONNELL.

No. 129.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 13, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of despatches as marked in the margin, from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana,† containing information on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

* Nos. 154, 155, and 156.

† Nos. 157, 158, 159, 164, and 165.

No. 130.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir, *Foreign Office, February 19, 1861.*
 I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, a copy of a note which I have received from the Spanish Minister at this Court, drawing the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the exertions made by the Spanish Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba; and I also inclose a copy of my reply to M. de Isturiz's communication.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 130.

M. de Isturiz to Lord J. Russell.

(Translation.)

My Lord,

Spanish Legation, London, January 12, 1861.

THE Spanish Government, desirous of proving to Her Britannic Majesty's Government the sincerity with which it fulfils, on its part, the stipulations relative to the Slave Trade, directs me to make known to your Excellency that in the first nine months only of the year just now ended, the Spanish cruizers have captured in the waters of Cuba more than 2,000 Bozal negroes. I am also directed to assure your Excellency that the new Captain-General of that Island is actuated by the utmost zeal on that point, as he has evinced by the trial, and dismissal, of certain authorities, who have not displayed a proper activity in preventing the landing of negroes.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) XAVIER E ISTURIZ.

Inclosure 2 in No. 130.

Lord J. Russell to M. de Isturiz.

M. le Ministre,

Foreign Office, February 16, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th ultimo, stating that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty being desirous of proving to Her Majesty's Government the good faith with which it fulfils its engagements for the suppression of the Cuban Slave Trade, has directed you to inform me that in the first nine months only of the past year, Spanish cruizers have captured in the waters of Cuba 2,000 Bozal negroes. And you add that you are further directed to assure me that the new Captain-General of Cuba is actuated by the utmost zeal for the suppression of this Traffic.

I beg leave, in reply, to acquaint you, that Her Majesty's Government have received with satisfaction the communication which you have been good enough to make to me on this subject, though they fear that the slaves captured by Spanish cruizers during the period mentioned by you, bear but a small proportion to the number actually introduced into Cuba.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 131.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 27.)

My Lord,

Madrid, March 20, 1861.

WITH reference to the Earl of Clarendon's despatch of the 14th April, 1857, on the subject of a landing of Bozal negroes at Sierra Morena, in the Island of Cuba, in the previous year, I have received a note from M. Calderon Collantes, of which I have the honour to inclose a translation, in reply to a communication which Lord Howden addressed to M. Pidal, at that time Spanish Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, in conformity with the instructions conveyed to him in the Earl of Clarendon's above-mentioned despatch.

CLASS B.

Your Lordship will learn from the inclosure, that Her Catholic Majesty's Government consider that the Marquis of the Havana, who was at the time Captain-General of Cuba, did everything in his power to punish the persons implicated in this transaction, by the dismissal from his office, and the subsequent imprisonment of the subaltern Captain of Rancho Veloz, where the negroes were landed; by arresting other suspected persons, and bringing the whole case before the competent tribunals; and further, that Marshal Serrano, the present Captain-General, considers it quite impossible to elicit any further information respecting the case, more especially as the greater part of the occurrences mentioned in Lord Howden's note took place on the coast of Africa, or in the United States.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

Inclosure in No. 131.

Señor Collantes to Sir A. Buchanan.

(Translation.)

Sir,

Madrid, March 2, 1861.

THE General Direction of the Colonies, which was duly informed of the contents of your note of the 28th of April, 1857, has forwarded to me the original evidence obtained in the proceedings instituted by the superior authority in the Island of Cuba in 1856, on suspicion of a disembarkation of Bozal negroes in the jurisdictions of Sagua, Remedios, or Cardenas, and of its realization at the first-named place.

It appears from the tenour of the said evidence, that the strictest orders were issued at the proper time to all the authorities of Sagua and its neighbourhood, to take the requisite measures for the purpose of capturing the cargo which had been landed; that not only was the dismissal of the subaltern Captain of Rancho Veloz, where the disembarkation was effected, ordered, but he was confined in the Castle of Fernandina de Jugua; the arrest of some individuals who appeared to be accomplices in the affair being likewise ordered, and the affair itself being made over to the competent tribunals: from all which proceedings you cannot do otherwise than acknowledge that the Governor of the Island of Cuba at that time, the Marquis of Havana, did everything in his power in the business.

At the same time I must mention to you that, according to information obtained from Captain-General Serrano, nothing is stated in the original evidence to bring to light the particulars contained in the note which I am answering, doubtless on account of his predecessor having been unable to discover the truth of the circumstances denounced.

The said General adds that, for his part, he also considers that it is not only unjustifiable, but even impossible, to institute investigations into this affair which would result in the discovery of the truth, so much the more on account of the chief part of the occurrences referred to in the above-mentioned note having taken place on the coast of Africa and in the United States; and consequently there are no means attainable for discovering them, and proving their authenticity in the Island of Cuba.

I believe I have satisfactorily replied to the note from the Legation above referred to, and avail myself, &c.

(Signed) S. CALDERON COLLANTES.

No. 132.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, March 30, 1861.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 27th ultimo, reporting that the Spanish Government are about to reinforce their squadron in the Cuban waters, I have to desire that you will ask the Spanish Minister whether the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will avail itself of this accession of strength to the Spanish squadron to direct that the coasts of Cuba may be more closely watched, and that the slave-vessels which now carry on their traffic almost with impunity may be captured.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 133.

Lord J. Russell to Sir A. Buchanan.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 5, 1861.

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, relating to the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 134.

Sir A. Buchanan to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 13.)

My Lord,

Madrid, April 6, 1861.

I YESTERDAY, in conformity with the instructions in your Lordship's despatch of the 30th ultimo, asked M. Calderon Collantes whether the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will avail themselves of the late increase to the strength of the Spanish squadron at the Havana to direct that the coasts of Cuba may be more closely watched, and that the slave-vessels which now carry on this Traffic, almost with impunity, may be captured. His Excellency replied that I might state positively to your Lordship, not only that all the naval means at the disposal of the Spanish authorities on the Cuban station would be employed to arrest the proceedings of the slave-traders, but that Her Catholic Majesty's Government were building several vessels specially adapted for the efficient performance of that service.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ANDREW BUCHANAN.

No. 135.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Edwardes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 2, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, copies of despatches, as marked in the margin,† from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 136.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Edwardes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 31, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you, for your information, copies of three despatches from Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana,‡ inclosing copies of correspondence with the Captain-General of Cuba relative to the landing of slaves in that island.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 137.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Edwardes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 19, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 7th instant, reporting that on the occasion of your communicating to Señor Calderon Collantes a copy of my despatch of the

* Nos. 166, 169, 170, 171, and 172.

† Nos. 176, 177, 178, and 179.

‡ Nos. 181, 182, and 183.

29th of May last, his Excellency renewed to you the assurances of the Spanish Government that slavery would not be renewed in Santo Domingo. You add, that the Spanish Minister further said, that the public feeling in Spain was against the Slave Trade, and that the Spanish Government was using its best endeavours to put a stop to it, but that its total suppression could not be effected in a day, or before measures for substituting other labour were matured.

I have to instruct you to state to Señor Collantes that Her Majesty's Government are naturally anxious that the measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade, indicated in his communication to you, should be adopted as quickly as possible. There can be no question that Spain has equal facilities with Brazil for putting a stop to the Slave Trade if she is really in earnest on the subject. Let her employ an adequate portion of the large naval force which she has now in the Cuban waters in suppressing the Slave Traffic on the coasts of that island, giving prize-money to the captors, and severely punishing the authorities and others who may be engaged in or connive at the introduction of slaves into Cuba. If such measures were pursued with vigour the Slave Traffic would expire in less than a year.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 138.

Lord J. Russell to Mr. Edwardes.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 19, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch which I have received from Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba,* inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between him and the Governor of the Province, relative to the disembarkation of a cargo of slaves within the Governor's jurisdiction.

You will perceive that while, on the one hand, Brigadier Letona, the Governor of Santiago de Cuba, arrested and sent to Havana for trial the parties engaged in the introduction of these slaves into the island, General Serrano, on the other hand, immediately released them.

I have to instruct you to take an opportunity of communicating the substance of Mr. Forbes' report to Señor Calderon Collantes; and you will at the same time point out to his Excellency the difficulty which Her Majesty's Government experience in reconciling the assurances recently conveyed to you that the Spanish Government are using their best endeavours to put a stop to the Slave Trade, with the acts of some of the Spanish authorities, as evinced in the conduct in this case of General Serrano.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 139.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 10, 1861.

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 the Havana, on matters connected with the Cuban Slave Trade.

You will perceive that Mr. Crawford's despatch of the 15th of June last has reference to the proceedings which were reported by Mr. Consul Forbes in his despatch of the 18th of May last, a copy of which was transmitted to Mr. Edwardes, and formed the subject of comment in my despatch of the 19th ultimo.

I have to instruct you to take occasion to say to Marshal O'Donnell that Her Majesty's Government highly appreciate the loyal and faithful observance of his duty by Brigadier Letona.

The Spanish Government must be aware that the British nation, as well as the British Government, attach the highest importance to the extinction of the Slave Trade. It is notorious (whatever may be the cause) that the Slave Trade Treaties between Spain and Great Britain are not executed, and it is impossible to persuade Europe or the world that what has been done in Brazil cannot be done in Cuba.

* No. 195.

† Nos. 184, 185, 187, and 188.

This is a matter, therefore, which deeply affects the friendly relations of Great Britain with Spain. It nearly concerns the honour and good name of the Spanish nation. Her Majesty's Government are persuaded that these considerations will have a powerful influence with Her Catholic Majesty. They are convinced also that the interests of humanity, and the honour of her Crown, are dear to the heart of Her Catholic Majesty. They have in consequence received the orders of Her Majesty the Queen to express her earnest desire that Her Catholic Majesty will take this subject into her deliberation, with a view to such steps as may give fresh glory to the reign of Queen Isabella, and form a new epoch in the history of civilization.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 140.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 12, 1861.*
WITH reference to my despatch to Mr. Edwardes of the 19th ultimo, I inclose, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba,* inclosing copies of a further correspondence which has passed between him and Brigadier Letona, the Governor of that province, relative to the recent Slave Trade proceedings within his jurisdiction.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 141.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 6, 1861.*
I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Beattie, Acting British Consul at St. Jago de Cuba,† inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between Mr. Forbes, Her Majesty's Consul at St. Jago de Cuba, and the local authorities at that port, relative to two reported landings of slaves at Sigua and Guantanamo, together with a copy of Consul Forbes' despatch to Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, upon the subject.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 142.

Sir J. Crampton to Earl Russell.—(Received September 9.)

(Extract.)

San Ildefonso, August 25, 1861.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 10th instant, I took the earliest opportunity of bringing the subject of the Slave Trade in Cuba under the attention of the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

I said that my recent personal communications with your Lordship, as well as those in writing, both public and private, which I had since received, precluded the possibility of a doubt of the entire sincerity of Her Majesty's Government to cultivate the most friendly relations with Spain. I had lately had an opportunity of publicly expressing the personal sentiments of the Queen my mistress towards Her Catholic Majesty, and I could assure his Excellency that in doing so I had not been merely complying with an empty form, but faithfully stating the real sentiments of my Sovereign.

England, in fact, whether viewing the question as one of European or commercial policy, could not possibly have any interest at variance with the independence, the prosperity, and, consequently, the honour and good name of Spain.

It was, therefore, as his Excellency might well believe, peculiarly painful to me to be compelled to enter upon the discussion of a matter deeply affecting the friendly relations which Her Majesty's Government were so desirous of fostering, but which, so long as it remained in its present unsatisfactory position, must render abortive their best efforts to bring the national feelings between the two countries into harmony with their wishes—I

* No. 196.

† No. 197.

meant the non-execution of our Treaties with Spain for the extinction of the Slave Trade. Giving all credit to the sincerity of the desire of the Spanish Government at once to fulfil their engagements towards Great Britain, and to reap the honour of dealing a death-blow to a Traffic which cannot but be odious to the immense majority of a free and generous nation such as Spain, it was nevertheless notorious that those Treaties are not executed; and I held in my hand letters from Her Majesty's Consular Agents in Cuba, which proved but too clearly that the Traffic in Slaves was still vigorously and successfully carried on in that island. It was difficult, I added, to persuade the British nation or Europe, that what has been accomplished by Brazil cannot be accomplished by the much superior means at the disposal of the Spanish Government.

Señor Collantes replied, that although he could not but feel inexpressibly pained at the reproaches of which the Spanish Government had been the object in regard to this matter (for what severer reproach could be addressed to an honourable nation than that of bad faith in its engagements?), he was not surprised at the language I now held to him. Nearly the same expressions had been made use of to him by a distinguished member of the British Cabinet, Lord Granville, who recently visited Madrid; and he could easily understand the position of the British Government and the feelings of the English nation in regard to this matter, although he must repeat that, when it came to be calmly looked into, it would be found that great injustice had been done to Spain. Her motives had been misapprehended; for of this he could assure me, had Spain found either that the execution of a Treaty engagement was an impossibility, or one which paramount political considerations rendered it necessary for her to decline, she would have taken the straightforward means of delivering herself from it which international law sanctions, and never have condescended to have recourse to the evasion of a Treaty which was distasteful to her, as a means of reducing it to a dead letter. This would be a course, I must allow him to say, inconsistent with the spirit of Castilian honour, which was not extinct in this nation, and a departure from which would call down its reprobation. But the truth was, that Spain neither designed to depart from her Treaty engagements, nor despaired of giving them the fullest execution, no matter what difficulties were thrown in her way, or to what obloquy she was exposed on the part of those who were unacquainted with the real circumstances of the case.

Spain had made efforts for the extinction of the Slave Trade, as he would prove to me by documentary evidence, and would continue to do so: but, in the first place, he would remark the difficulties inherent in the subject were not sufficiently appreciated; in the second, the real extent of the existing Traffic, still, he confessed, too large, was greatly exaggerated; and, in the third, the measures taken, and taking, by the Spanish Government to check the evil have not been allowed time to bear their appropriate fruit.

As regarded the difficulties to be overcome, he would mention the exorbitant gains of the Traffic, which impelled adventurers to encounter every risk in carrying it on. As long as Cuba was unprovided with a proper system for the importation of free labourers (a matter of great difficulty), this temptation would subsist. Another obstacle was the persistence of the United States' Government in refusing the right of foreign cruizers to ascertain whether vessels exhibiting their flag were entitled to do so. A third was, he must admit with regret, the want of integrity, in the discharge of their duties, of some of the officials of Spain in Cuba. This was an evil which Spain has inherited from despotism, but which the present Government were determined to root out.

Exaggerations as to the amount of the Traffic were, his Excellency observed, natural enough, because in regard to illegal proceedings clandestinely carried on, there was no means by which the public could control the vague surmises which were sure to circulate. He thought, however, that he should be able to convince me that instead of 10,000, 20,000, or even 30,000 as had been alleged, not more than 5,000 or 6,000 negroes had been landed in Cuba in the course of the past year. Here his Excellency observed that, with much respect for Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, he could not but think that he was in the habit of crediting somewhat too easily (*"avec légèreté"*), the reports which were brought to him on this subject.

With respect to the measures now being taken or contemplated by the Spanish Government for the purpose of extinguishing the Slave Trade, Señor Collantes said that one of the most essential was the organization of a system of importation of free labourers from India. This had hitherto been a matter of difficulty, because it was found that the principles and habits of these people differed so essentially from those of the inhabitants of the Island of Cuba,—which, his Excellency observed, enjoyed the blessings of the Christian religion,—that it required much care to assimilate them to the rest of the population. He trusted, however, that means would be found to render their labour available, and thus to diminish the profits of the slaver. Another was the searching inquiry into

the conduct of the Spanish officials instituted by the Captain-General of Cuba, and the severe and immediate punishment of such of them as had been concerned in, or had connived at, the Slave Trade. He thought he should be able to convince me at a future interview, when he would communicate to me some despatches from Marshal Serrano, that the Spanish Government have not been remiss in this respect, as I would perceive that many, and some very high, officials had been summarily dismissed.

I here took the opportunity of saying that it was highly gratifying to me to be able to call his Excellency's attention to conduct on the part of a Spanish officer of high rank, eminently the reverse of that which his Excellency had so justly stigmatized. I alluded to the loyal and faithful observance of his duty by Brigadier Letona, the Lieutenant-Governor of Santiago de Cuba, which, I had received your Lordship's instructions to say, was highly appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

His Excellency said he was acquainted with this gentleman, and seemed gratified by the favourable mention of his services.

Señor Calderon Collantes concluded our interview, which was interrupted by the necessity of his Excellency's attendance on the Queen, by saying that he would renew our conversation on this subject at an early period, and communicate to me several Reports from Marshal Serrano, which he had lately received, and other documents which he trusted would do much to vindicate the good faith and sincerity of the Spanish Government in their efforts finally to suppress the Slave Trade.

No. 143.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 13, 1861.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 25th of August, and I have read with great interest the account of your conversation with the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject of the Cuban Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Government are quite willing to admit that there are difficulties arising from various causes in the way of the entire extinction of this odious Traffic. Still, the facts remain. Other nations have, like Spain, made Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and have been able to effect their object, whilst Spain has not done so.

Her Majesty's Government cannot doubt that a sufficient number of cruisers on the coast of Cuba, with directions to sweep the bays and search the creeks, would soon render the Slave Trade unprofitable to those who make nothing but profit by pursuing it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 144.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 9, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 10th of August last, I transmit to you herewith, copies of further despatches from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana, relative to the Slave Trade in the Island of Cuba.*

I am, &c.

(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 145.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 12, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copies of a despatch and its inclosures from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed Commission Court at Havana,† containing a Report upon the Cuban Slave Trade during the twelve months ended the 30th of September last.

I have to instruct you to address a note to the Spanish Government embodying the

* Nos. 189, 190, and 191.

† Class A, No. 14.

substance of this Report, and in doing so you will state that you are instructed to call the serious attention of the Government of Her Catholic Majesty to the state of things represented by Mr. Crawford.

It would appear from Mr. Crawford's Report that nearly 18,000 slaves are known to have been landed in Cuba within the last twelve months, and if to this are added the numbers of Africans captured within the same period by the British and American squadrons in slave-vessels destined for Cuba, there will have been at the lowest computation not less than from 25,000 to 30,000 embarked from Africa for the employ of the Cuban market within the short space of one year. This number would have been very considerably augmented but for the captures made by the English and United States' cruisers, of vessels fitted out for, and destined to be employed in, the Cuban Slave Traffic.

Her Majesty's Government are glad to perceive from Mr. Crawford's reports that the Spanish cruisers and local authorities have succeeded in rescuing about 3,400 negroes from slavery; and they readily acknowledge the efforts which the present Captain-General of Cuba appears to be making to carry out the declared intentions of his Government in regard to the prevention of the introduction of slaves into Cuba. Her Majesty's Government doubt not that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will duly weigh the opinions expressed by the Captain-General as to the expediency of declaring the Slave Trade to be piracy, and of devising some enactments by which slaves suspected to be recently imported into Cuba may be seized, in whatever part of the island they may be found, and on due proof liberated from the state of servitude in which they may be held.

It will not escape the wisdom of the Spanish Government that such measures as have occurred to the Captain-General would, if vigorously enforced, contribute greatly to the extinction of foreign Slave Trade in Cuba; and Her Catholic Majesty's Government would not only have the satisfaction of having been able to apply a simple remedy to an evil of which it candidly admits the existence, but would also by so doing remove a constant topic of discussion of a most painful character with the British Government.

You may give a copy of this despatch to M. Calderon Collantes.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 146.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 12, 1861.

I INCLOSE, for your information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Consul-General at the Havana,* reporting the capture, by Her Catholic Majesty's war-steamer "Neptuno," of the slave-vessel "Toccoa," with upwards of 600 slaves on board.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 147.

Earl Russell to Sir J. Crampton.

(Extract.)

Foreign Office, November 28, 1861.

WITH reference to the fears entertained by the Liberian Government, that an attack would be made on Monrovia by a Spanish naval force, on account of the seizure of a Spanish slave-vessel in the Gallinas river by the Liberian gun-boat "Quail," I now inclose, for your information, the undermentioned papers relating to this case, viz. :—

Copies of a letter and its inclosure from Commander Smith, of Her Majesty's ship "Torch,"† reporting his having seized and destroyed in the Gallinas river, a schooner equipped for the Slave Trade, supposed to be Spanish, but without name, papers, or colours, to denote her nationality.

Copies of a despatch and its inclosures from the Governor of Sierra Leone,‡ reporting the particulars of the attack recently made by a Spanish gun-boat on the Liberian schooner "Quail" in the waters of Monrovia.

Whatever may have been the merits of this case in the first instance, as depending upon the question whether the place where the Liberian cruiser detained the Spanish

* No. 194.

† Class A, No. 80.

‡ No. 36.

slaver was, or was not, within the limits of the Liberian territory, such a question, if the Spanish authorities felt aggrieved at the seizure, might properly, in the first instance, have formed the subject of representation to the Liberian Government, and if the Spanish Government were not satisfied that the Liberian Government rightly possessed the territory claimed by them, a demand for redress might have followed.

But the conduct of the Commander of the Spanish gun-boat in entering the waters of Monrovia under the guise of friendship, and deliberately opening fire upon a Liberian vessel, without, as far as Her Majesty's Government is aware, any communication with the officer in command, any warning to the Liberian authorities, or any attempt to procure redress by negotiation, is a proceeding so utterly at variance with the usages of civilized nations, that Her Majesty's Government cannot for a moment doubt that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will disavow and disapprove the proceedings of their officer.

I have to instruct you to embody the substance of this despatch in a note to the Spanish Government.

No. 148.

Sir J. Crampton to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 10, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 12th ultimo, I have addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, embodying the substance of Mr. Crawford's Annual Report to your Lordship upon the Cuban Slave Trade.

Availing myself of your Lordship's permission to that effect, I have communicated a copy and translation of your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch to Señor Calderon Collantes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 148.

Sir J. Crampton to Señor Collantes.

M. le Ministre,

Madrid, December 10, 1861.

A REPORT has been received by Her Majesty's Government from Mr. Crawford, Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in the Mixed Commission Court at Havana, upon the Cuban Slave Trade during the twelve months ended the 30th of September last.

I am instructed by Her Majesty's Government to communicate to your Excellency the substance of this Report, and in doing so to call the serious attention of Her Catholic Majesty's Government to the state of things represented by Mr. Crawford.

It would appear from Mr. Crawford's Report that the Slave Trade has been carried on during the last year with the same activity as it has been for several previous years, and that nothing which has yet been done has prevented slave-traders from launching into fresh adventures in the prosecution of their detestable Traffic, as your Excellency will perceive by a glance at the Tabular Statement which I have the honour to lay before you herewith, of the number of slaves landed, and the proportion thereof captured by the Spanish cruisers and Spanish local authorities during the year.

Your Excellency will perceive that the number landed is 17,973, and the number captured 3,401; adding to this one-third (5,991), as has been customary, we obtain a total of no less than 23,964 as the computed amount of the importation.

Your Excellency will not fail to notice that although by far the greater number of the Bozal negroes captured have been taken by Her Catholic Majesty's cruisers, viz., 2,866, the Spanish local authorities have succeeded in capturing 535 only, and it is Mr. Crawford's opinion that, by the continued exercise of the same vigilance on the part of the Spanish naval officers, and by the increase of the number of vessels of a small draft of water, a serious check would be given to the Traffic.

I have much satisfaction in adverting to the statement by Mr. Crawford of his conviction that his Excellency the Captain-General of Cuba is animated by the most sincere desire to put an end to the Slave Trade, and to compel the observance of the existing Treaty with Her Majesty's Government for its suppression; but Mr. Crawford adds his

CLASS B.

regret—and this is a point to which I am particularly instructed to draw your Excellency's attention—that the present state of the Spanish penal laws on this subject does not practically enable the authorities to reach the root of the evil. These laws, it appears, forbid any interference with the slave-traders after they may have succeeded in getting their recently imported cargoes of slaves conveyed to any estate or inhabited property, thus presenting a complete obstruction to the efficient action of the best-intentioned officers of the Spanish Government for the extirpation of the Slave Trade.

The Captain-General being precluded by these enactments from seizing the illegally imported negroes, or taking them from any property or plantation, it is found, as Mr. Crawford states, extremely difficult to obtain sufficient legal proof of the guilt of the parties concerned to ensure their conviction before the only tribunals to which such offenders are amenable.

The vessels fitted out for the Slave Trade have, Mr. Crawford further states, for some time past sailed under the flag of the United States. The greater part of them have been bought in that country, and have proceeded from thence to the Coast of Africa, and he describes the various devices which are had recourse to in order to exempt them from seizure by the cruisers. When boarded, and the nature of their equipment excites suspicion, they allege that they are whalers, and that the extra number of boilers and casks which they carry are destined to reduce the blubber and to receive the oil. It is well known, however, that they are waiting for a favourable opportunity to take in slaves for the Cuban market, almost the only one which now remains open to them. When captured their flag and papers have usually disappeared, and they then bear no national character whatever.

The Captain-General has, it appears, several times expressed his opinion to Mr. Crawford that the best means of putting down the Slave Trade would be to declare it piracy, and to subject the masters, crews, and all concerned in the navigation of slavers to martial law; and Her Majesty's Government entirely concurring in the soundness of this suggestion, the adoption of which has been found most efficacious in other instances, trust that it will receive the best consideration of the Spanish Government.

I have the honour of inclosing herewith a list, furnished by Mr. Crawford to Her Majesty's Government, of the vessels reported to have sailed from Cuba to be employed in the Slave Trade since the 1st October last year, all of which it appears were, with two exceptions, under the United States' colours.

I beg to add the translation of a despatch addressed to myself by Lord Russell on this subject, a copy of which I am permitted to place in your Excellency's hands.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

No. 149.

Sir J. Crampton to Earl Russell.—(Received December 22.)

My Lord,

Madrid, December 17, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the copy of a note which I have addressed to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs, upon the subject of the destruction at Gallinas of a Spanish slaver by Her Majesty's ship "Torch," and the attack of a Spanish gun-boat on the Liberian schooner "Quail," at Monrovia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN F. CRAMPTON.

Inclosure in No. 149.

Sir J. Crampton to Señor Collantes.

(Extract.)

Madrid, December 11, 1861.

WITH reference to the events which gave rise to the attack by a Spanish gun-boat on the Liberian war-schooner "Quail," which took place in the harbour of Monrovia on the 11th of September last, and to the fears entertained by the Liberian Government that an attack would be made on Monrovia by a Spanish naval force, in consequence of the seizure of a Spanish vessel in the Gallinas river by the "Quail," and its subsequent destruction by Her Majesty's ship "Torch," I have been furnished by Her Majesty's Government with the undermentioned papers relating to this case, which I have the honour of now transmitting to your Excellency in copy:—

Copies of a letter and its inclosure from Commander Smith, of Her Majesty's ship "Torch," reporting his having seized and destroyed in the Gallinas river a schooner equipped for the Slave Trade, supposed to be Spanish, but without name, papers, or colours, to denote her nationality.

Copies of a despatch and its inclosures from the Governor of Sierra Leone, reporting the particulars of the attack recently made by a Spanish gun-boat on the Liberian schooner "Quail" in the waters of Monrovia.

Whatever may have been the merits of this case in the first instance, depending upon the question whether the place where the Liberian schooner detained the Spanish slaver was or was not within the limits of the Liberian territory, it is the opinion of Her Majesty's Government that such a question, if the Spanish authorities felt aggrieved at the seizure, might properly in the first instance have formed the subject of representation to the Liberian Government, and if the Spanish Government were not satisfied that the Liberian Government rightly possessed the territory claimed by them, a demand for redress might have followed.

But the conduct of the Commander of the Spanish gun-boat in entering the waters of Monrovia under the guise of friendship, and deliberately opening fire upon a Liberian vessel, without, as far as Her Majesty's Government is aware, any communication with the officer in command, any warning to the Liberian authorities, or any attempt to procure redress by negotiation, appears to Her Majesty's Government to be a proceeding so utterly at variance with the usages of civilized nations that Her Majesty's Government cannot for a moment doubt that the Government of Her Catholic Majesty will disavow and disapprove of the proceeding of their officer.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Barcelona.*

No. 150.

Consul Baker to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 5.)

My Lord,

Barcelona, July 31, 1861.

A REPORT having reached me respecting the suspicious nature of the voyage undertaken recently by a Spanish barque that left this port on the 7th instant, I endeavoured to obtain some information regarding her, and have in consequence ascertained that even by public rumour she is supposed to be intended for the Slave Trade on the coast of Africa, her new owner, Señor Mas (*a*) Pigat, a passenger in her, having only recently returned from the coast of Africa.

The vessel was formerly called the "*Josefa*," subsequently the "*Jacinta*," and is now the "*Maria*," Juan Magimon, master. She was cleared ostensibly for Vera Cruz on the 7th of July, with a crew of sixteen, and nine passengers, all seamen, carpenter and workmen. The cargo and provisions, as declared at the Custom-house for Vera Cruz, appear to be:—

100 empty pipes for water.	60 jars olive oil.
68 sacks white beans.	1 box with 3,000 cigars.
4 quarter-casks vinegar.	3 ditto with 18,300 ditto.
37 bags Indian corn meal.	2 ditto with 12,500 ditto.
50 quintals cod fish.	114 small packages with leaf tobacco.
85 sacks rice.	1 box with 1,000 cigars.
2 half-pipes common red wine.	3 ditto with 62,950 ditto, in 300 small boxes.
3 pipes brandy.	

The vessel, by no means of modern construction, has been much repaired here lately, a new cutwater being attached to her bow, and her yards being considerably lengthened to admit of carrying a press of canvass. She has a white streak, but otherwise no very striking features by which to distinguish her.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES BAKER.

No. 151.

Mr. Layard to Consul Baker.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 19, 1861.

I AM directed by Earl Russell to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a letter from Commander Bedingsfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "*Prometheus*,"* reporting his having captured the Spanish schooner "*Jacinta*," on the 27th of May last, off Londano, equipped for the Slave Trade; and I am to desire that you will endeavour to ascertain who are the parties that owned this vessel or were otherwise engaged in this Slave Trade speculation.

I am, &c.

(Signed) A. H. LAYARD.

No. 152.

Consul Baker to Earl Russell.—(Received September 23.)

My Lord,

Barcelona, September 18, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of despatch from the Foreign Office dated the 19th August, directing me to endeavour to ascertain who were the parties

* Class A, No. 85.

connected with the Spanish schooner "*Jacinta*," captured off Londano in May last, and reported to belong to this port.

In reply, I beg leave to state that, although I have caused strict inquiry to be made into the matter, it does not appear that any vessel under that name, and with the particular rig described in the despatch of Captain Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "*Prometheus*," has sailed from this port for the coast of Africa, or any other place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES BAKER.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Bilbao*.

No. 153.

Consul Brackenbury to Earl Russell.—(Received October 22.)

My Lord,

Vigo, October 16, 1861.

ON the 10th of September, 1860, I had the honour to address a despatch to your Lordship on the subject of the Spanish steamer "*Quevedo*," of her having been at that time detained here on her arrival from Campeachy, and of her having landed a cargo of slaves on the Island of Cuba in the month of May.

I must beg your Lordship to allow me to follow up the history of events as regards that vessel.

Firstly, in confirmation of my former despatch above alluded to, that the "*Quevedo*" had been engaged in the Slave Trade, I then stated to your Lordship that she had been searched by the Naval Commandant, and nothing found on board beyond the Campeachy wood.

The intended visit had been notified, and the manacles for the slaves, and two guns which were on board, had been taken out the vessel during the night, and sunk.

In the month of December of last year the "*Quevedo*" was apparently sold at this port to Don Andres Isasé, of Bilbao, and Señor Don Mariano Perez was the agent employed, and became the consignee of the "*Quevedo*," whose name was changed to "*Salvador*."

Being personally acquainted with Señor Don Mariano Perez, I asked him what was intended to be done with the "*Salvador*," and he replied she was to go from this to Bilbao, thence to Liverpool to be refitted, and would then be employed in the line between Liverpool, Bilbao, and the successive Spanish ports in the Atlantic and Mediterranean.

On the 22nd January last the "*Quevedo*," alias "*Salvador*," sailed from this, but instead of proceeding to Bilbao, as stated, I am told she went direct to the coast of Africa, took on board immediately on her arrival 1,200 negroes, which she successfully landed at Point Maysi, in the Island of Cuba, and thence proceeded to Campeachy.

Two seamen who went in the "*Salvador*" have returned with their ill-gained profits to their homes in this Province, and as matters of that kind are no secret here, their success is publicly known.

In conformity with the instructions contained in the circular despatch of the 2nd of May last, I beg to inform your Lordship that I have forwarded a copy of this despatch to Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

W. CONGREVE C. BRACKENBURY.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*Havana.*

No. 154.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 1, 1861.)

(Extract.)

Havana, December 5, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 29th ultimo.

The recent most glaring infractions of the Law and of the existing Treaty for extinction of the Slave Trade which have taken place in the Jurisdiction of Trinidad, committed by some of the most notorious slave-traders, having attracted much of the public attention, his Excellency, when the circumstances were brought under his notice by the Vice-Consul Acting Consul-General in my absence, at once removed the Lieutenant-Governors, and promised to supersede all the other officers who were aiding in said infractions.

It has since become known that the slave-traders, owners of those expeditions, had imposed on the Governors Espinar and the Marquis de Torremegia, by misrepresenting to them that they had General Serrano's concurrence in landing said slaves, thereby inducing those officers to shut their eyes to what took place.

I therefore deemed it my duty to acquaint the General of this scandalous proceeding. At the same time I had to complain that his Excellency had not fulfilled his promise of removing the other officials, and your Lordship will observe that I had again to bring under the Captain-General's notice the landings of slaves which have been effected at the Isle of Pines, to acquaint him that another cargo is looked for there, and to advise him of the arrangements which have been entered into for the safe landing of an expedition at La Teja.

There is in fact, my Lord, no obstacle to the disembarkation of slaves anywhere in the island. The only consideration for the trader now is, where it can be done cheapest, and safest also after the landing has been effected until they can be sold; because of late the owners of some estates to which newly landed slaves have been taken for their immediate protection (under that clause in the penal law which forbids Bozals being seized after they are within the boundary lines of any property), have refused to give them up to the importers, but have claimed them as belonging to themselves; unless the importers submit to such charges as they have thought fit to impose for harbouring and protecting them from seizure at the time of landing.

I regret to add that the outfitting of vessels here, and elsewhere in Cuba and in the United States, for the purpose of slave-trading, goes on as actively and on as great a scale as has been the case for a long period, and that I see no prospect of its being checked or put a stop to.

Inclosure in No. 154.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, November 29, 1860.

WITH reference to the Acting Consul-General's communication addressed to your Excellency on the 3rd instant, relative to the landing of a cargo of slaves in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, I regret exceedingly to be obliged to state to your Excellency that two more cargoes of Bozal negroes have been landed there, making three in all, belonging to the same parties, who it is currently said and believed, at Trinidad, invoked your Excellency's name in order to deceive the Lieutenant-Governor, the Brigadier Espinar, and the Brigadier Torremegia, most assuredly without any authority from your Excellency for their so doing.

I am credibly informed that excepting the two officers above-mentioned who were so deceived by the owners of the said expeditions, none of the others who took part in these infractions of the law and of the Treaty had been removed by your Excellency up to the 26th instant, and consequently they are still in office, and probably ready to co-operate with the same parties, connive with them for the safe landing of a fourth cargo which is expected by them in the same district.

With reference also to the denouncement made by the Vice-Consul, Acting-Consul General, to your Excellency on the 1st instant, as to the landing of a cargo of slaves at the Isle of Pines, I am enabled to state that said landing was effected at Rio Nuevas in said island, that the slaves were taken to the estate called "the Manigua," where they are being taught a few words in the Spanish language, and are being brought to Batabanó in small lots on board the steamer "*Cubano*."

I have besides to acquaint your Excellency that more slaves are soon to arrive from Africa, probably to be landed at the same place in the Isle of Pines, as they belong to the same owners as those already disembarked.

It is also my disagreeable duty to acquaint your Excellency that I have information of a cargo which is expected soon to arrive at La Teja, respecting which the arrangements have been made with one of the Capitanes de Partido, and that the slaves will probably be taken to the estate called "the Isabel" at La Teja.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 155.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 1, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 6, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the American brigantine "*Falmouth*," 108 tons, has cleared out at this port for San José de la Mina; and the American brigantine "*Huntress*," 180 tons, cleared out for Key West, as well as the American schooner "*Express*," 90 tons, have, I understand, been sold at this port to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 156.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 1, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 7, 1860.

I HAVE this morning received advice from the Vice-Consul at Cardenas, to the effect that the cargo of slaves which I had notified the Captain-General was expected in that district, has arrived and has been safely landed at La Teja.

The vessel, an American brigantine, made her appearance off Cayo Piedras near Cardenas, and a coasting schooner belonging to Don Francisco Rosell was sent out to her from Cardenas on the 1st instant. The slaves 450 in number, were transferred from the brigantine to the schooner, and were landed at La Teja from the cutter vessel on the Valdivieso estate called "the Aurora."

The Vice-Consul informs me, under date 4th, that the Governor of Cardenas was taking steps to catch the guilty parties, and had himself gone to La Teja on that service; but your Lordship will at once comprehend that he would be too late to effect his purpose.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 157.

Consul General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 7, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 14, 1860.

A SCHOONER, seemingly American-built, arrived off Trinidad on the 4th instant, and ran ashore on one of the cayos; the crew cut away her masts; and intelligence having reached the Lieutenant-Governor, the Conde de Balmaseda, he captured the whole of the slaves, 360 in number.

I have the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a copy of the letter which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General upon this occasion, apprising him also that another cargo of slaves is expected to arrive shortly in the same district.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 157.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, December 9, 1860.*

I HAVE much pleasure in congratulating your Excellency on the capture of 360 Bozal negroes by the Governor of Trinidad, the Conde de Balmaseda, on the 4th instant, which doubtless was the cargo of slaves of whose arrival I had intelligence and reported to your Excellency on the 29th ultimo.

I now hasten to acquaint your Excellency that another cargo of Africans is expected to arrive in the same district of Trinidad, and I hope that your Excellency will apprise the Conde de Balmaseda so as that he may be prepared to intercept them. I learn that the said cargo will consist of about 600.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 158.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 7, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 15, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 10th instant, embodying certain information which I received that morning from Mr. Consul Forbes, of St. Jago de Cuba, respecting a suspicious steamer, supposed to have been a slaver, which was seen from that place on the 1st instant, and it is believed is one of a number which, it is said, have been purchased for slave-trading by an Association which is represented at Santiago de Cuba by the French firm of Ducouran and Co., with a branch at Guantánamo, others there and in this city being interested, the arrangements for which were made by a certain Don Antonio Cuervo Arango.

This again, my Lord, is a new organization for carrying on the Slave Trade by means of steamers, and goes to show that there is no want of enterprise amongst that description of demoralized capitalists who are attracted by the enormous profits, when they think they have been able to effect certain arrangements which Don Ramon Cuervo Arango, it is said, boasts he has concluded with influential authorities here, said Arango having had the management of that branch of this new Association's business.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 158.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, December 10, 1860.*

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I have received intelligence from St. Jago de Cuba, that, on the 1st instant, a steamer, of a very suspicious appearance, passed that port in an easterly direction, and that the same steamer was met with in the afternoon of the same day at some distance to windward of St. Jago. I have to state to your Excellency that it is somewhat extraordinary the said steamer was not signalled when off that port, as is usual, which induces the belief that the people at the signal-station are in connivance with the parties interested in said steamer, which it is strongly suspected is a slaver that had been unable to land her cargo of negroes to the westward of St. Jago, and was proceeding elsewhere for that purpose.

I am informed, moreover, that the steamer seen from St. Jago is the first of a series expected to arrive with slaves on the coast of this island, the agents for which are Messrs. Ducouran and Co., a French firm at the city of St. Jago, which has a branch establishment at Guantánamo, with other parties interested in Cuba and in this city of Havana, who have established themselves for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade on a large scale, the whole of the arrangements having been conducted by a certain Don Ramon Cuervo Arango.

I have also to notice to your Excellency the fact, that although the suspicious slaver alluded to appeared off St. Jago when there were two of Her Catholic Majesty's war-steamers in that port, viz., the "Bazan" and the "Juan de Austria," neither of them was sent out to ascertain the character of the strange vessel; but I learn that the Brigadier-Governor Letona had issued the strictest orders with regard to this occurrence to all the officers under him, with a view to prevent any landing of slaves in his jurisdiction; and I hasten to give your Excellency this information for such purposes as may be deemed necessary to warn the officers of other districts on the north side of this island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 159.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 7, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 15, 1860.

HIS Excellency the Captain-General has notified me that he has authorized the clearance, for the coast of Africa, of the American barque "*Alexina*," Lambert, master,* which it is probable is intended for slave-trading; and I understand there are several more vessels now in this harbour which are soon to be dispatched for the same purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 160.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 14, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 22, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the American barque "*Mary J. Kimball*," 398 tons, McClelland master, cleared on the 20th instant for San Thomé, and sailed yesterday on a slave-trading voyage, which has, however, been brought to a rapid conclusion by the United States' steam gun-boat "*Mohawk*," Commander Craven, who followed the "*Mary J. Kimball*" out of port, and having overhauled her, has no doubt found her equipped for the Slave Trade, as both vessels were last seen proceeding in the direction of Key West.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD

* 245 tons; cleared 1st instant, for River Zaire.

No. 161.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 31, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 26, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 23rd ultimo, transmitting for my information copies of letters which your Lordship had received through the Board of Admiralty, from Rear-Admiral Sir H. Keppel, and Commander Raby, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto," reporting the capture of a barque supposed to be the "Esperanza" or "Rosetta," and the "Constancia" and "Manuela," for being engaged in the Slave Trade.

It affords me great satisfaction to recognize in the "Manuela" the American ship "Sunny South," 702 tons, and in the "Constancia" the American ship "White Cloud," 284 tons, both from this port, and reckoned very fast sailers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 162.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 31, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 27, 1860.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 22nd instant, reporting the capture of a slaver by Her Catholic Majesty's screw steamer "Isabel Francisca," I have to correct the error in my statement, that the captured ship was the "Don Juan," which sailed from hence on the 11th of August last; since it has been ascertained subsequently that such slaver is the "Montauk," an American ship which fitted out and sailed from New Bradford; that 916 slaves were found on board alive, of 1,108 which they took in at Kilongo, and are said to be Lucumis.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 163.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 31, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 28, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the American brig "Tocoa," 227 tons, cleared from this port, and sailed on the 20th instant for San Paulo de Loanda, and the Spanish schooner "Diana," Ros master, cleared and sailed of this date for Canarias and Mogador, part of her cargo being 114 pipes of aguardiente, but which, if examined, would be found to be water.

It is said that the "Tocoa" has been detained by the United States' gun-boat "Mohawk," and taken to Key West.

Respecting the "Diana" I have not been able to discover anything that affords me the means of describing her. She is not on any shipping list, and has, I understand, several aliases, or other names.

I have also to report to your Lordship that the celebrated American pilot-boat schooner "Wanderer" has been sold at this port, and it is said will be dispatched as soon as possible, to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 164.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 31, 1861.)

My Lord,

Havana, December 29, 1860.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, and its inclosure, relative to a suspicious steamer which had been seen from the Morro Castle of Santiago de Cuba, I have now the honour to report to your Lordship that said steamer had, previous to her appearance off Santiago, successfully landed her cargo of slaves near to Manzanillo.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 165.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 31, 1861.)

(Extract.)

Havana, December 30, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that a cargo, consisting of 453 Lucumis, has been landed, and the slaves conveyed to the estate (San Juan de Dios) of Don Francisco Calderon y Kessel, near Jarruco, in the district of Matanzas, where they were sold at an average of about 1,200 dollars each, being fine strong healthy negroes of a favourite nation.

I have heard that a cargo of slaves, 400 in number, transhipped at the Isla de Mugerres, has been landed here by coasters, and it is rumoured another cargo has been safely landed near Bahia Honda.

The waters around the island appear to be full of slaving expeditions, whether setting out or returning, and this disgraceful and inhuman Traffic is being carried on to an extent unheard of even before the existence of the Treaties entered into for its suppression, which seem now to be entirely disregarded.

No. 166.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 28, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 10th ultimo, relating to a steamer which appeared off the Morro Castle of Santiago de Cuba on the 1st of that month; and the copy of a letter which I addressed to his Excellency on the 4th instant, complaining of the landing of a cargo of slaves near Manzanillo, which I had ascertained had been effected by the steamer referred to in my previous communication; also, of the landing of 400 slaves which were brought here from the Isla de Mugerres by fishing-smacks and coasters, into which they were transhipped from on board the slaver-vessel that had brought them from Africa; of the landing of 453 Bozals, which took place near Jarruco; of a landing which, it was reported, had taken place near Bahia Honda, but wanted confirmation; and, lastly, of the landing of 550 slaves at Puerto del Padre, on the north side of this island, some time between the 16th and 20th ultimo.

All these infractions I have now to confirm to your Lordship as having taken place, excepting that reported near Bahia Honda, which was unfounded. But circumstances having come to my knowledge, in connection with the landing effected at Puerto del Padre, which involve a question of violation of a British possession by the slave-traders from this island, I deemed it my duty to address his Excellency General Serrano on this important subject, and I have the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a copy of my letter, as well as a translation of the answer which I received from his Excellency, which takes no notice whatever of the more serious part of my complaint, the violation of the British territory.

I have transmitted a copy of my letter to the Captain-General of Cuba, to Her Majesty's Governor of the Bahamas, and I beg leave herewith to inclose to your Lordship a copy of my despatch to Governor Bayley, asking for information on this subject.

In the meantime, I have to state to your Lordship that, from the master of a vessel belonging to Nassau, New Providence, which arrived here this morning, I learn that the facts as complained of by me to the Captain-General are correct; and I understand that,

on the wreckers returning to Nassau after they had carried the slavers and the negroes in safety to Lobos, they gave information, and, from what I have been informed by said master, the wreckers' declarations had been taken, so I may soon expect to receive a full and exact statement of what took place.

I beg leave to acquaint your Lordship that I shall, by the earliest opportunity, forward copies of my correspondence with General Serrano on this subject to the Admiral Commander-in-chief on the West India Station.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 166.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, December 10, 1860.

I HAVE the honour of acquainting your Excellency that I have received intelligence from St. Jago de Cuba that, on the 1st instant, a steamer of very suspicious appearance passed that port in an easterly direction, and that the same steamer was met with on the afternoon of the same day at some distance to windward of St. Jago.

I have to state to your Excellency that it is somewhat extraordinary the said steamer was not signalled when off that port, as is usual, which induces the belief that the people at the signal-station are in connivance with the parties interested in the said steamer, which, it is strongly suspected, is a slaver that had been unable to land her cargo of negroes to the westward of St. Jago, and was proceeding elsewhere for that purpose.

I am informed, moreover, that the steamer seen from St. Jago is the first of a series expected to arrive with slaves on the coast of this island, the agents for which are Messrs. Ducouran and Co., a French firm at the city of St. Jago, which has a branch establishment at Guantánamo, with other parties interested in Cuba and in this city of Havana, who have established themselves for the purpose of carrying on the Slave Trade on a large scale, the whole of the arrangements having been conducted by a certain Don Ramon Cuervo Arango.

I have also to notice to your Excellency the fact that, although the suspicious steamer alluded to appeared off St. Jago when there were two of Her Catholic Majesty's war-steamer in that port, viz., the "Bazan" and the "Juan de Austria," neither of them was sent out to ascertain the character of the strange vessel; but I learn that the Brigadier Governor Letona had issued the strictest orders, with regard to this occurrence, to all the officers under him, with a view to prevent any landing of slaves in his jurisdiction: and I hasten to give your Excellency this information, for such purposes as may be deemed necessary to warn the officers of other districts on the north side of this island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 166.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, January 4, 1861.

WITH reference to my letter to your Excellency dated the 10th ultimo, respecting a suspicious steamer which had been seen from the port of St. Jago de Cuba, I have now to state to your Excellency that said steamer had, previous to her appearance off Santiago, effected the landing of an extensive cargo of slaves near Manzanillo.

I have learnt, also, that about 400 slaves have been introduced by fishing-smacks and coasting-vessels into this island from Isla Mugerres, or Cosumel, on the coast of Yucatan, where they were transhipped from the slaver which brought them from the coast of Africa.

A cargo, consisting of 453 Bozals of the Lucumi nation, has been landed near Jaruco. They were taken to the estate called San Juan de Dios, and were sold from thence at an average price of 1,200 dollars each.

It has been reported to me (but wants confirmation) that a cargo of African negroes has been landed near Bahia Honda.

And, from the 16th to 20th ultimo, a landing was effected of 550 Bozals at Puerto Padre, on the north side of this island.

Intelligence of all these infractions of the law and of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade has doubtless reached your Excellency before this, and they would sooner have been reported by me but for a severe indisposition which I have been suffering, and which rendered it impossible for me to address your Excellency for some time past.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 166.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, January 18, 1861.

ON the 4th instant I did myself the honour of addressing your Excellency complaining of a number of violations of the law and of the Treaty with Great Britain for the abolition of the Slave Trade, and on that occasion I noticed to your Excellency the landing of 550 slaves at Puerto del Padre, which took place about the 16th to the 20th of last month, but at the date of my said letter I was not fully informed, as I am now, of all the circumstances of this most audacious proceeding, which will very probably involve a very serious discussion between our respective Governments.

The facts which have come to my knowledge are as follows:—

A slave-vessel, having on board an American and also a Spanish captain, when on her voyage from the coast of Africa with a cargo of Bozal negroes on board, which were intended to be landed on this island, was wrecked at the Mucaras shoals, and the crew and slaves, amounting (the latter) to 550, were rescued by some English wreckers, who took them to the British island of Lobos, and there landed them in safety. But it appears that parties in this island, interested in that unlawful expedition, sent from Nuevitas the Spanish coasting brigantine "Antilla," which they chartered for the sum of 5,000 dollars, and 3,000 dollars more which they agreed to pay for some coal which was on board that vessel, and they proceeded to the Island of Lobos, and took from thence the 550 slaves, and carried them to Puerto del Padre, where they were landed, as I understand, without opposition of the local authorities.

I am not aware that there is any civil or military officer of Her Britannic Majesty at the Island of Lobos, but there are certainly inhabitants, subjects of Her Majesty, in charge of the lighthouse there, so that it cannot be considered an uninhabited cay, nor otherwise than a British possession, the abstraction from which of the negroes in question was a most daring aggression, since those negroes were on British territory and under the protection of British law, where slavery cannot exist.

Should this information which I have received turn out to be correct, your Excellency will at once perceive the gravity of the offence, and that it will be my duty to claim the immediate restitution of the negroes to the British Government of the Bahamas, from whence they were taken, as well as full and complete satisfaction for the outrage of the British territory which has been committed.

And in reporting this most disagreeable occurrence to Her Majesty's Government, which I shall do by the earliest opportunity, it will be my duty to state that Her Majesty's Consul at Santiago de Cuba informs me that these infractions of the Treaty are openly conducted by a Spaniard in Havana named Franganillo.

I have no doubt that your Excellency will lose no time in causing an inquiry to be made on this unpleasant subject, and that you will adopt such measures, consequent of the result, as its urgency and importance may call for.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 4 in No. 166.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, January 21, 1861.

PREVIOUS to receiving your Honour's communication of the 4th instant, referring to the disembarkation of Bozals at Puerto Padre, I had ordered the proper proceedings to be instituted by the Government of the Eastern District; this being done, I remitted it to the Real Audiencia on the 18th, for any further proceedings; but as your Honour's second communication of that date, received subsequently to the passing over said

proceedings, contains data which may be useful in the matter, I have ordered a translation of it, and that it be sent to the Tribunal, so that this denouncement, added to that previously known, may help to throw light on the acts at present subject to the investigation of the judicial authorities.

I shall endeavour, as soon as possible, to inform your Honour of the final determination in this matter.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRO. SERRANO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 166.

Consul-General Crawford to the Governor of Bahamas.

Sir, *Havana, January 19, 1861.*
THE recent occurrence at Cay Lobos has been reported to me in the following terms:—

That a slaver having been wrecked on the Mucaras shoals, the crew and 550 negroes were saved by some English wreckers, and landed on Lobos; that a Spanish brigantine, called the "Antilla," was sent from Nuevitas by the slave-traders of this island, and the negroes were taken from Lobos in that vessel, and were safely landed at Puerto del Padre, about the 16th to the 20th ultimo.

The facts, however, must have been communicated to you as they really occurred, but if by any possibility no report has been made to you on this very important subject, I beg leave to submit for your consideration the necessity there is for instituting inquiry and a full investigation of the matter.

In the meantime I have addressed his Excellency the Captain-General, stating to him the intelligence I have received, and I have informed him that if the circumstances turn out to be such as have been reported to me, they will give rise to very grave discussions between our respective Governments; that Great Britain will require the restitution to her Government of the Bahamas of the 550 negroes which were taken from a British possession, where slavery cannot exist; and that fullest satisfaction will be exacted for the outrage committed on that part of Her Majesty's dominions.

I beg the favour of your furnishing me, as soon as possible, with such facts and details as may enable me to deal with this important matter.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 167.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 29, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that I have received information from the British Vice-Consul at Cardenas dated the 27th instant, to the effect that "Captain Gallet, of the French ship 'Don Juan,' with his crew, arrived in that port in a small coasting vessel, having reported his vessel as sunk at some distance from Cardenas amongst the cays;" and the Vice-Consul adds, "I have seen the crew, who all tell a connected story of their being bound to China, that their vessel sprung a leak, and that they were obliged to abandon her when in a sinking condition. It is, however, known here that a successful landing of a large cargo of negroes has been effected from that vessel. Captain Gallet and crew are in charge of an officer and sent to Havana to be placed at the disposition of the Captain-General."

The Vice-Consul further informs me that the American brig "Cosmopolite" sailed from Cardenas on the 18th instant, destination not known, but supposed to be intended to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

In connection with the fact of the arrival of the master and crew of the slaver "Don Juan," which ship was fitted out at and sailed from this port on the 11th August last, I have to state to your Lordship, from an undoubted source, that her cargo of slaves, 607 in number, were landed on or about the night of the 25th instant at Las Pozas, in the eastern district of Cardenas, being a part of the coast nearest to the anchorage called "The Falcones," at Cayo Bahia de Cadiz.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 168.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, January 30, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Lordship's despatch dated the 27th ultimo, which has reference to the Acting Consul-General's despatch of the 26th of June last, acquainting me that Commodore Edmonstone had informed the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with reference to the French screw-steamer supposed to have been the "*François I*" of Marseilles (which it was reported had landed 1,300 slaves near Cardenas), that he has no knowledge of said steamer having been fallen in with by any of Her Majesty's cruizers under his orders.

I have now the honour of stating to your Lordship that I have made diligent inquiry respecting this matter, and I am satisfied that the landing of slaves took place, as reported by the Acting Consul-General; that they were brought by a screw-steamer which showed French colours when chased and fired at twice by Her Catholic Majesty's steam-cruizer the "*Conde de Venadito*," from which vessel the slaver escaped by her superior speed; but whether the screw was the "*François I*," or what her name was, nor whether she was in reality French, I have not been able to ascertain.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. J. CRAWFORD.

No. 169.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 1.)

My Lord,

Havana, February 4, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch dated the 28th ultimo, and its inclosures, relative to the abduction of 550 Bozal negroes from Cayo Lobos, and their subsequently being landed at Puerto del Padre, by the slave-traders from Nuevitas in this island, I have obtained from Commander Hamilton, of Her Majesty's steam-sloop "*Hydra*," an abstract from the lighthouse keeper's log, which contains a relation of what took place at Cay Lobos, from their discovering the slaver ship on the Labanderas Reef, to the time of the departure of the Spanish brig "*Antilla*" with the abducted negroes, a copy of which abstract I have now the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 169.

Extract from the Log kept at Cay Lobos Lighthouse.

Monday, December 3, 1860.—DISCOVERED a ship on the Lavenderas, with her head to the east, and trying to back off. Saw her lights during the night.

Tuesday, 4th.—Daylight; saw the ship still on shore, and her boat coming towards the cay. At 9:50 A.M., boat came on shore with seven men. They told us that they were from Melbourne, bound to New Orleans, but afterwards said they had people on board, and they must land them on the cay, and asked for the boat, as they only had two, and one of them was stove. Mr. La Motte told them he could not lend it them, but they said they must have it, and took it, as they intended, and put the cargo on shore till they could send them to Cuba. Mr. La Motte asked the captain's name, and ship's name; they said it made no matter.

Wednesday, 5th.—Ship still on the reef, with everything standing, no boats having come on shore since they took our boat.

Thursday, 6th.—At 7 A.M., on looking at the wreck, discovered three boats pulling for the cay, bearing south of the cay. At 12 noon landed; they consisted of captain and crew of the ship. They said they left her at 8 P.M., and had been in the boats all night. They left the boat belonging to the cay at 9 P.M., as they could not tow her. They said we must give them something to eat, as they had not brought anything from the ship, there being too much sea.

Friday, 7th.—At daylight discovered the schooner "*Lilley*," Smith master, laying on the south-east side of the cay. As soon as she was seen by the men on the cay, they

pulled in their boats to her, and compelled the captain to go to the wreck, and fetch the negroes on shore, which they did by 4 P.M. Landed some 500, and kept charge of the schooner, as they said they were going back the next day. Principal keeper had to give them provisions. They were all armed with revolvers. They had charge of the place altogether, but did not offer to do any harm.

Saturday, 8th.—Crew went to the wreck in the schooner, leaving eight men on the cay to cook for the slaves. At 2.50 saw a small schooner; she came to an anchor on the south-east side of the cay. At 6 P.M. schooner returned from the wreck, and landed 13 slaves, and sails to cover them, the people stopping on board the schooner.

Sunday, 9th.—At 10 A.M., the schooner "Lilley" got underweigh, and stood over to Cuba, the other schooner laying at anchor; I do not know her name yet, she is going to wreck the ship "Amelia."

Monday, 10th.—At 6 A.M. schooner got underweigh, and went to wreck, and did not come back.

Tuesday, 11th.—Schooner still at wreck.

Wednesday, 12th.—Ditto.

Thursday, 13th.—Schooner came back from wreck, and anchored.

Friday, 14th.—At 10 A.M. schooner "Lilley" came back from the wreck, with the captain, and a boat astern of her. They picked her up among the cays, with one man in her. He said he wanted to get to Nassau. They unbent her sails, and hauled her up. At 4 P.M. Mr. Finlay's boat came to anchor, and captain came on shore. Principal keeper gave him letters to take to Nassau, but the captain took them away, and swore he should not go, and retained him from going, and made him go on board.

Saturday, 15th.—Schooner went to wreck, leaving captain on the cay; did not return.

Sunday, 16th.—At 10 A.M., hung the colours from the lighthouse, but the crew came up, and took them down, and swore they would not have it. At 4 P.M. schooner came from wreck.

Monday, 17th.—At 6 A.M. sloop got underweigh, and stood to the wreck, but afterwards backed and stood to northward.

Tuesday, 18th.—At daybreak discovered a brig laying-to off the wreck, and was soon boarded by the slavers. She had a white flag flying at her main. They came to an anchor, and began to take in at 7 A.M., and at 10 A.M. got underweigh, and stood to the westward, leaving two sick slaves on the beach (since dead). The captain and two of the crew took the boat from the Spaniard they picked up, and went to the south-south-east with her, leaving the man on the beach. He was taken on board the "Lilley," as he said he would go up that night.

Mark on a whale-boat left by them:—"Mitchell & Gabriel, N. B."

The ship got her cargo at Cabenda eighty days before her wreck.

No. 170.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 1, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatches of the 28th of January and the 4th of February, relative to the affair of Cay Lobos, the Captain-General having referred the matter for investigation to the Royal Audience, a Commission from that tribunal, his Excellency informs me, has been sent, under the direction of the Oidor Don Pedro de Lemonauria, to the Eastern district of the Island on that service, and the Commission has not yet returned to Havana.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 170.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, February 14, 1861.

ON the 6th instant, and at the request of the Sala Segunda of the Real Audiencia, the Oidor Don Pedro Lemonauria was appointed to proceed to the Eastern Department to institute the necessary proceedings for inquiring into the disembarkation of Bozal negroes,

CLASS B.

which is said to have taken place at Puerto Padre, in the jurisdiction of Holguin. That magistrate set out yesterday, being provided with all the assistance he deemed necessary for the better and speedier discharge of the duties entrusted to him.

Which I state to your Honour for your information and the purposes you may deem proper.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRO. SERRANO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 170.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, February 15, 1861.

WITH reference to my letter dated the 18th ultimo, in which it was my disagreeable duty to complain to your Excellency of what had been reported to me as having taken place at the Isla de Lobos, upon the occasion of the wreck in that neighbourhood of a slave-vessel, the crew and cargo of which were saved by some English wreckers, and landed on Lobos, an island belonging to Her Majesty's dominions of the Bahamas, from whence the cargo, consisting of 550 Bozal negroes, were forcibly abducted and carried to this island by a Spanish brig called the "Antilla," which was sent for that purpose from the port of Nuevitas, such act being contrary to the law of England, and an outrage of the British territory of Bahamas, I have to acquaint your Excellency that I have received despatches from his Excellency the Governor of Bahamas, by which it appears that the facts which I stated to your Excellency are fully confirmed, and that the case having been officially reported by the Governor to Her Majesty's Government, I may very soon expect to receive instructions on this very important and disagreeable subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD

Inclosure 3 in No. 170.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, February 16, 1861.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, relative to the introduction of Bozal negroes at Puerto Padre, in the jurisdiction of Holguin; and having had it translated immediately by the Government Interpreter, I transmitted a copy of it to the Illustrious Señor Regente of the Real Audiencia, for the purposes for which it may be useful in the proceedings which are being carried on in the matter of which said communication treats.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRO. SERRANO.

No. 171.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 3, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a letter which I yesterday addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, complaining of a landing of 600 Bozal negroes near the Castle of Xagua, at the mouth of the harbour of Cienfuegos, on the 25th ultimo, with the connivance of the local authorities. And since denouncing that infraction of the law and of the Treaty to his Excellency, I have received from the Vice-Consul at Cienfuegos a corroboration of the fact of the landing, but he does not appear to have been informed of the particulars.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 171.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, March 2, 1861.*

I HAVE received intelligence, upon which I think I can place reliance, that, on the 25th ultimo, a landing of 600 Bozal negroes was effected near Cienfuegos, at a place within a mile of the Castle of Xagua, with (as I am informed) the knowledge and connivance of the Spanish authorities.

I have not received the official account of this most glaring infraction of the Law and of the Treaty from the British Vice-Consul; but I understand that the vessel from which said Bozals were landed was a brigantine which was seen from the castle two days previous to the landing being effected; that said vessel did not show any colours; that she communicated with the shore by signal, and then a large chalan was sent off to land the slaves, the which chalan (called the "Manzanillo") was allowed to pass the castle outwards, and returned to the shore in the night with the negroes on board, without any interruption of the Governor of the Castle, who desired it to be permitted to pass free.

The Bozals were taken, as I am informed, to the Yngenio la Carolina.

I shall be much obliged for any information your Excellency may have received on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 172.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 4, 1861.

HAVING received information, from a private source, that a landing of slaves took place near Bahia Honda at the beginning of last month, it was verbally communicated to the Captain-General, who promised to order inquiry; and in due time I received a note from the Secretary, stating the result to have been that nothing could be discovered of such an occurrence having taken place in that district.

Having again seen my informant, he assures me that he had the notice from an eye-witness; that the affair took place on the beach between Bahia Honda and Mariel; that, being in the night, he could not say how many slaves there were, but that there were a great number, and that he was informed they belonged to the nephew of the late Don Joaquin Gomez, to whose estate they were to be taken. I therefore considered it my duty to address his Excellency the Captain-General, in reply to the Secretary's letter; and I beg leave to lay before your Lordship a copy of my letter to General Serrano dated the 2nd instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 172.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 2, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of stating to your Excellency, in answer to Don Manuel Gonzalez del Valle's (Government Secretary) private letter of the 1st instant, relative to the landing of a cargo of Bozal negroes which is reported to have taken place on the coast near Bahia Honda about the beginning of last month, that I have not succeeded in obtaining sufficient data to enable me to address your Excellency officially on the subject, the person who communicated the circumstance to me confidentially, and who stated that he was an eye-witness to it, having left this place, having only informed me that the disembarkation took place between Mariel and Cabañas; that the adventure was a large one; and he also stated to me the name of the party interested.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 173.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 5, 1861.

MR. VICE-CONSUL SMITH has reported to me that a vessel called the "*Thriver*," of Boston, Cook master, sailed from Trinidad about the 10th ultimo, and that he has reason to believe she is bound on a slaving expedition to the River Congo.

The "*Thriver*" is a fore-and-aft schooner, and is fitted to appear as a whaler; she will probably have on board, as passengers, Captains Hathaway and Small, who, I believe, are Americans, and also a Mr. Heyleger, a native of the Danish island of Santa Cruz, but who has resided some years in Jamaica, and passed in this island as an Englishman.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 174.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 18, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the American brigantine "*African*," 193 tons, Lane master, was cleared at this port on the 8th instant for Fernando Po, and sailed on the 12th, apparently for that destination, but no doubt with the view of being subsequently employed in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 175.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 19.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 27, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the American brig "*W. C. Clark*," 277 tons, Dagget master, cleared at this port yesterday for Elmina, and that there is no doubt that said vessel is destined for the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 176.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 29.)

(Extract.)

Havana, March 30, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a correspondence which I have had with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting a disembarkation of 800 Bozal negroes, which took place on or about the 9th instant at Puerto del Padre, as well as that it must be inferred another cargo had been run near Guanaja, as a vessel had been burnt at Cayo Cruces.

His Excellency is pleased to express great confidence in the probity and efforts of the Oidor Lemonauria, who was at Las Tunas, near Puerto del Padre, when the landing of the 9th was effected.

I shall be very agreeably disappointed if Señor Serrano's expectations are realized.

The Captain-General alludes to forthcoming measures for the suppression of the Slave Trade, respecting which I shall submit my opinion to your Lordship, as soon as they have been promulgated and come into operation.

Inclosure 1 in No. 176.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, March 25, 1861.

IT is my most disagreeable duty to complain to your Excellency of another landing of Bozal negroes, which took place at Puerto del Padre on or about the 9th instant. This

cargo, which was brought by a vessel barque-rigged, consisted of no less than 800. The vessel was in the port until the 14th, when she was set on fire and destroyed. I am informed that there was no opposition made by the authorities to the landing of the slaves, and that they connived at it, the whole proceeding having been conducted in the most shameful manner.

In obedience to the instructions which I have from Her Majesty's Government, I am to remonstrate seriously with your Excellency upon the subject of these so-constantly repeated infractions of the law and of the Treaty, in which not only all the parties interested in these adventures, but those whose duty it is to prevent such scandalous proceedings, and who connive at them, are suffered to go unpunished.

It has been stated to me that this last disembarkation of which I complain actually took place whilst the Oidor Lemonauria, who is investigating the previous scandalous affair at Puerto Padre, was in the immediate neighbourhood.

I have also received certain information that as another vessel has been set on fire and burnt at Cayo Cruces, near the port of Guanaja, it is inferred that her cargo of slaves has been safely landed in that neighbourhood.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 176.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, March 27, 1861.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of the 25th instant, referring to the landing of Bozals effected some days ago at Puerto del Padre, in the jurisdiction of Holguin, which affair is under the cognizance of the Oidor Don Pedro Lemonauria, who, as your Honour knows, happened at the time to be in that district conducting the legal proceedings on account of a previous disembarkation, and whose notorious rectitude and honesty, placing him beyond the reach of suspicion, insures the best execution of his commission.

I highly deplore the repetition of such criminal acts as the one which now occupies us, and the other recent one which your Honour mentions in the same letter, and to prevent them I have taken every step which the law allowed me, seconding the views and instructions of Her Majesty's Government.

And so determined am I to put down the abuse, even if it be by extraordinary measures, that your Honour will soon see published Government dispositions of the greatest efficacy, which will leave no doubt to Her Britannic Majesty's Government of the pains which are taken by that of Her Catholic Majesty to fulfil strictly the stipulations of the existing Treaties.

According to the official information I have received of this affair, 49 Bozals belonging to the adventure have, up to the present time, been captured, and I have given the necessary orders to carry out the legal proceedings with energy.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FRO. SERRANO.

No. 177.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, March 30, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 27th instant, complaining of another landing consisting of 640 slaves, which took place on the 23rd at the Yngenio (estate) Santa Rita de Almeyda, Rancho Veloz, district of Sagua. And as a day or two ago, a vessel, barque-rigged, of about 300 tons was found near the coast to the eastward, without crew, colours, or papers, and towed into this harbour, it is probable that she is a slaver which had successfully landed her cargo. I understand that said derelict was fitted as a whaler (now the dodge of the slave-traders on account of the large boilers and other fittings analogous to those of slavers), that her name is the "*Romulus*," and that she sailed from New York.

The Slave Trade is certainly most flourishing, and those engaged in it seem to carry it on with an increased energy, proportionate to their success and impunity.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 177.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Sir,

Havana, March 27, 1861.

IT has come to my knowledge that early in the morning of the 23rd instant, a cargo consisting of 640 Bozals was landed at the Yngenio Santa Rita de Almeyda, Rancho Veloz, Sagua.

There is no doubt whatever of the truth of this information, and also of the fact that there was no opposition on the part of the local authorities.

I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to acquaint me, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, whether any intelligence has been received respecting this infraction of the law and of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 178.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship, copies (from the "Gaceta del Gobierno" of the 30th ultimo) of a proclamation by his Excellency the Captain-General of Cuba, dictating the measures to which he alluded and which are referred to in my despatch of the 30th ultimo.

Doubtless, if there were officers who could be depended upon for honestly carrying out such dispositions, the arrest and punishment of a dozen of the principal owners of slaving expeditions, their agents and accomplices, would operate very powerfully to check the progress of the inhuman Traffic, and if enforced and persisted in, the Slave Trade would have to be abandoned by all the wealthy and influential who are now engaged in it, a class most numerous, but whose actions are closely veiled in that respect.

Such, however, are the enormous profits, and such the depravation already produced by the demoralising effects of the Slave Trade, that I am apprehensive the Captain-General's proclamation will only stimulate the traders to greater corruption in spite of his Excellency's good intention.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Proclamation.

(Translation.)

Government Secretary's Office.

INASMUCH as the measures availed of up to the present in accordance with the express orders of Her Majesty (whom God preserve) for the suppression of the African Trade, and its importations to this island, have not been sufficient, notwithstanding the persecution followed out by sea and land, and the seizure made of no small number of Bozals, and the prosecutions followed out on the occasion of each disembarkation, without omitting even the dismissal of the employés and agents of the Administration for negligence, deception, or other causes affecting the service; I have considered it absolutely indispensable to appeal to more rigorous and efficacious measures which, whilst they preserve the national honour and dignity, may serve to check those who, unmindful of such high considerations, have set the majesty of the law at defiance. I therefore order:—

1. That the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, with all the means at their disposal, and under their personal and inexcusable responsibility, redouble their zeal and watchfulness against every scheme or attempt for the introduction of Bozal negroes.

2. That in case of seizure care be taken as to the housing, attendance, and good treatment of the Bozals rescued from the Traffic, and remaining under the protection of the Government.

3. Without prejudice to the attributes of the judicial authorities, to whom notice should be given of the probabilities of, or attempts at, the disembarkation of Bozals, the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors will make executive investigations, under their authority, with the facts, information, and declarations which they may obtain.

4. That on no consideration are they to omit, on those investigations, the name of the importing vessel, the captain, and crew, nor that of the outfitters of the discovered expeditions, with their accomplices, receivers, or participators in the prohibited importation.

5th, and finally. That on the proceedings being transmitted to this my Government, I reserve to myself to proceed executively, as may be best suited to the Royal service, and in exercise of my authority against those who may appear to be outfitters and principal accomplices, or who have had part in the expeditions of this reprobated Traffic; and be it published.

Havana, March 28, 1861.

(Signed)

FRO. SERRANO.

No. 179.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 4, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the celebrated American barque "*Cora*," 403 tons, Hart master, arrived here from New York on the 28th ultimo, was cleared for Vera Cruz in ballast on the 30th, and has sailed for the coast of Africa, to be employed in the Slave Trade.

I have also to acquaint your Lordship, that I was informed by the Captain-General this morning, that he had just received intelligence of the capture of a slaver with Bozals on board, by the Spanish steamer of war "*Don Juan de Austria*."

The capture took place near Nuevitas, but how many slaves were on board, his Excellency said he did not know. He had, however, given orders that all of them were to be placed as apprenticed emancipados, excepting 100, which are ordered to be sent here.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 180.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 30, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging to your Lordship the receipt of Lord Wodehouse's despatch dated the 14th ultimo, transmitting, for my information, copies of two letters from the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "*Torch*" to the Secretary to the Admiralty, reporting the capture and destruction of two vessels engaged in the Slave Trade, without colours or papers—one a cutter, the other a brigantine, which had been abandoned in the Rio Pongas.

I recognize in the captured sloop or cutter the same vessel which is mentioned in my despatch of the 23rd of May last; also referred to in the report of Her Majesty's Commissioners of the 30th September; and I have ascertained that she was called "*Mi Bella*," and sailed (her clearance and departure not having appeared in the papers), from this port, said to have been the property of Don Domingo Echevarria, of this city.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 181.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, April 30, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a translation of a letter which I have received from the Captain-General, which has reference to my denouncement to his Excellency on the 27th ultimo, of a disembarkation of 640 Bozal negroes in the district of Sagua, subject of my despatch dated the 30th idem.

His Excellency's letter contains the admission that, previous to the receipt of my denouncement, this Government had information of the landing referred to from the

authorities of Sagua, but notwithstanding their vigilance they were too late to capture the slaves at Santa Rita.

This, your Lordship will not fail to observe, is always the case, and in compensation his Excellency informs me he had given orders to prosecute all persons whose responsibility might attach to the disembarkation in question, assuring me of their being punished, as well as all those who fail to do their duty in the observance of the laws and of the Treaty for suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 181.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, April 13, 1861.

PREVIOUS to the receipt of your Honour's official letter dated the 27th ultimo, I already had information, through the authorities of Sagua, of the disembarkation of the Bozals referred to by your Honour in said communication, as well as their having been introduced at the estate Santa Rita. That estate has been searched by the Alcalde Mayor of the district, accompanied by the Notary of the Court; and notwithstanding that the existence of the negroes upon the said premises did not turn out proven by the examination, probably from their having been taken off or sold by the outfitters prior to the search being made, thus setting at defiance the zeal and vigilance of the judicial and administrative employés, I have ordered the proper proceedings to be instituted for insisting on the responsibility which may attach to the functionaries and private individuals who may be implicated in said disembarkation; your Honour being assured that, by my authority, all those who may have been wanting in the compliance of their duties, and the respect and punctuality with which the Treaties and existing Laws for the suppression of the Slave Trade should be observed, shall receive the punishment which they deserve.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) FRO. SERRANO.

No. 182.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Captain-General respecting a landing of 660 Bozal negroes which took place on the 3rd ultimo at Puerto Escondido, near to Guantánamo, in the jurisdiction of Santa Catalina; which expedition is said to belong to the French house of Ducouran and Co., of Santiago de Cuba.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 182.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, April 18, 1861.

HER Majesty's Consul writes me from Santiago de Cuba, under date the 10th instant, that a cargo consisting of 660 Bozal negroes was landed on the 3rd at or near Puerto Escondido, in the jurisdiction of Santa Catalina.

The Consul gave due notice of this infraction of the Law and of the Treaty to the Governor of Cuba, who, in answer, informed the Consul that he had given orders for an investigation into the matter, intelligence having reached that Government on the 6th that a disembarkation of slaves had been effected, but without any information as to where it had taken place.

According to other information which I have received, I am enabled to state to your Excellency that the expedition so landed belongs to, or is under the direction of, Messrs. Ducouran and Co., and that the 660 negroes were distributed to various estates from whence they are being sold by said Ducouran and Co.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 183.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received May 28.)

My Lord,

Havana, May 2, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General on the 20th ultimo, denouncing a disembarkation of 690 Bozal negroes which I was informed had taken place at Cayo Verde, near Guanaja, on the north coast of this island, from a brig called the "*Nancy*," which vessel went to the Coast of Africa some time ago to be engaged in Slave Trade.

In denouncing this circumstance to his Excellency, I alluded to a rumour which reached me, that a naval officer in the command of one of Her Catholic Majesty's ships allowed said slaver to pass.

Your Lordship will observe by the correspondence which has arisen on my said letter, that General Serrano asserts my information to have been incorrect; and he takes occasion to remark that not always, as on the present occasion, has it been that the information I receive has proved correct, either as to the place or number of slaves, which my well-known zeal in Her Majesty's service has prompted me to act upon; and these observations have given me occasion to state to his Excellency the great difficulty of my position with regard to obtaining correct information, which obliges me so constantly to apply to this Government for particulars, which are never given, and I am left to my own sources of intelligence, which have generally proved to be correct.

His Excellency having stated so positively that no landing such as I had denounced took place at Guanaja, and that the hull of the "*Nancy*" had been found burnt near Guantánamo, on the other side of the island, I did not hesitate to concede the matter of there having been one violation of the Law and of the Treaty less.

But from further investigation of the matter which I have instituted, it may still result that the "*Nancy*" did land her cargo at Guanaja, and was burnt near Guantánamo. Even as it is, the cargo landed from the vessel that was seen on fire near Cayo Cruces, referred to in my despatch dated the 30th of March, is unaccounted for, and was undoubtedly landed safely on the island.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 183.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, April 20, 1861.*

IT has come to my knowledge that a cargo of Bozal negroes has been landed, as I understand, about three weeks or a month ago from a vessel which brought them to Cayo Verde near Guanaja, and I have reason to believe that said slaves (690 in number) were landed with the connivance of the local authorities from a brig called the "*Nancy*," which it is also said was fallen in with and allowed to pass by one of Her Catholic Majesty's cruisers.

I cannot give my belief to the latter statement, notwithstanding that it comes from a quarter in some degree entitled to credence, but that the disembarkation was successfully accomplished, there is no doubt whatever.

In order to prevent inquiry, it was reported and circulated by the parties interested in this expedition, that the "*Nancy*" had been captured by one of Her Catholic Majesty's cruisers; but there was no truth in that rumour.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 183.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, April 30, 1861.

IMMEDIATELY on receipt of your Honour's communication of the 20th instant, relative to a supposed landing of 690 Bozals effected at Cayo Verde near Guanaja, brought by the brig "*Nancy*," I issued the proper orders, and I asked for all the necessary

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information in order to prove the truth of the matter, of which I had not received any other report or data than that contained in your Honour's said communication.

From the result of such inquiries, and of all those which I have been able to make extra-officially, there can be no doubt but that at the said point of Guanaja, comprised in the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe, no disembarkation of Bozals has taken place, either before or after the time specified by your Honour; the insinuations which your Honour makes relative to connivance of the authorities and naval officers of Her Majesty being unfounded.

As your Honour designates by name the vessel conveying the cargo which you say was landed near Guanaja as being the brig "*Nancy*," whose hull has been found burnt on the coast of the jurisdiction of Guantánamo, this circumstance shows the reason of the mistake into which your Honour has fallen, leading you to believe and to denounce as certain two landings of Bozals, when in reality only one has taken place in the said jurisdiction of Guantánamo, a circumstance now under cognizance of the Tribunals, and which, within the limits of my attributes, has led to the immediate dismissal of the Lieutenant-Governor of the district.

In virtue of the above-stated facts, I think I should call your Honour's attention to a consequence to be deduced therefrom, which is, that not always, as in the present instance, does it happen that the information your Honour receives is entirely correct relative to the clandestine introduction of negroes, as also as regards the number of them on the coast of this island, and which the well-known zeal of your Honour induces you to receive as worthy of all credit.

It is, indeed, true, and I am the first to deplore it, that the cunning of the speculators succeeds, in some cases, in evading the strictest vigilance, and even to make me doubt in certain cases the honesty of some subalterns; but it is also true that your Honour has notorious and repeated proofs of the rigour with which this Government strives to put down the Slave Trade, against which I have employed and am still making use of every means allowed me by law, and some besides which pass legal limits. The number of nearly 4,000 Bozals captured so far during my command, the several dispositions which your Honour must have seen in the official "*Gazette*" and the numerous dismissals of employés, some of high rank, in consequence, as your Honour well knows, of suspicion of neglect in suppressing or connivance at the Traffic, are facts which fully prove the previous assertion.

I have fully explained myself in giving your Honour these explanations in answer to your said letter of the 20th instant, in order that your Honour may rectify the mistake into which you have no doubt involuntarily fallen, in supposing that 690 Bozals have been landed at Guanaja, hoping from your rectitude that you will hasten to correct the mistake if, under the idea that it was correct, you have reported the matter to your Government.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRO. SERRANO.

Inclosure 3 in No. 183.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, May 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 30th ultimo, in which, with reference to my communication of the 20th, your Excellency informs me that after having caused an investigation of the matter to be gone into, it results that the information I had received of the landing of 690 Bozal negroes near Cayo Verde and Guanaja was unfounded, and that had such disembarkation taken place, the slaves could not have been from the brig "*Nancy*," the burnt hull and wreck of which vessel had been met with near Guantánamo.

I am always ready to correct any error into which I may fall in consequence of my having received wrong information, and I am happy to find that the intelligence on which I acted in addressing your Excellency on the 20th ultimo was not reliable, and that there is consequently one infraction of the law and of the Treaty less.

It becomes me also to express to your Excellency the satisfaction I feel at being assured, from the fact that no disembarkation took place, there could have been no connivance of any officer of the Royal Marine Service of Her Majesty.

Your Excellency will easily understand that it is at all times most difficult for me to obtain information respecting the Slave Trade. Permit me to state to your Excellency that I am always careful to ascertain as much as possible the reliability of the intelligence which I do receive before reporting it to your Excellency, and that I constantly request to be furnished, for the information of Her Majesty's Government, with such information as

may have reached your Excellency respecting the cases which, in obedience to my instructions, it is my duty to bring under your notice; but as such information is never given, I must have recourse to my own sources, which have generally proved correct.

I have great pleasure in bearing witness to the efforts which have been made and which are still continued for checking the now almost unlimited course of the Slave Trade, by the dispositions of your Excellency; but those dispositions will, I am apprehensive, be rendered abortive by the effects of Article IX of the Penal Law of 1845.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 184.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 10, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to his Excellency the Captain-General on the 20th ultimo, to which I have not been favoured with any acknowledgment or reply.

I believe there is no doubt as to the vessel alluded to in my letter to General Serrano having, just previous to her capture, landed 550 Bozals at Carahatas.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 184.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, May 20, 1861.

HAVING been informed that Her Catholic Majesty's schooner "Juanita" captured lately a schooner, American-built, of about 250 tons, supposed to be called the "Potomac," which vessel was found abandoned at sea amongst the cays to the eastward of Cardenas with proofs of her having been engaged in the Slave Trade, as shown by her equipments, I have to request that your Excellency will inform me whether what I have heard is true, that said captured vessel had previously landed 550 Bozal negroes near Carahatas, which the owners of the expedition disposed of in safety.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 185.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 29.)

My Lord,

Havana, June 15, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 1st instant, respecting the doings of the slave-traders in the Eastern District of the Island, Government of Cuba, as it is called, which is under the command of Brigadier Letona, who has been very active in persecuting the parties there who are engaged in this Traffic.

The Brigadier arrested Ducouran and sent him prisoner to this capital, but his partners, who are wealthy and influential, interfered for him and he was released and allowed to return to Santiago de Cuba.

However, I have reason to believe that General Serrano is now better informed as to Ducouran and Co. and their connexions in the Slave Trade, and that one or more of the officers under Governor Letona's orders who had lent themselves to the slavers will be removed from the Staff of that district.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 185.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, June 1, 1861.*

A SEVERE illness has prevented me from doing myself the honour of calling on your Excellency for some time past, or of addressing your Excellency as I wished to have done, in order to express the great satisfaction I feel at the measures which have been adopted by the Brigadier-Governor of Cuba for carrying into effect your Excellency's dispositions for suppression of the Slave Trade, upon the two occasions which have occurred at Puerto Escondido, where 660 Bozals landed on the 3rd April, and at Macambo on the 8th ultimo, where the disembarkation of no less than 1,020 slaves was safely effected.

Her Majesty's Consul, Mr. Forbes, has informed me fully of all the circumstances of both those cases, and of the anxiety and activity displayed by Brigadier Letona to capture those expeditions, as well as to detect and punish the parties engaged in such wholesale infractions of the law and of the Treaties. It has been stated to me that a part of the cargo of Bozals which were landed at Macambo, was taken to Guantanamo, but that a considerable number of those miserable creatures had been sent to Baracoa, and were to be shipped on board the steamer "*Maysi*" for this, and some of the intermediate ports, at which that vessel would touch on her voyage from said port of Baracoa. Your Excellency would doubtless be apprised if any of said Bozals were shipped on board the packet "*Maysi*" at Baracoa, and would no doubt proceed accordingly.

Such an organized company as exists in the Eastern Department of the Island, for carrying on the Slave Trade, is obnoxious to order and good government, and his Excellency Governor Letona will, I have no doubt, watch over the operations of Ducouran and Co., so as, if possible, to effect their punishment and destruction.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 186.

Lord J. Russell to Consul-General Crawford.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 21, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your information, an extract of a despatch from the Governor of Sierra Leone, which has been communicated to me by the Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, reporting the capture by Her Majesty's ship "*Falcon*," of an American-built vessel named the "*Flight*," with slaves on board, but without colours or papers to denote her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 186.

Governor Hill to the Duke of Newcastle.

(Extract.)

Government House, Sierra Leone, June 4, 1861.

1. I HAVE the honour to inform your Grace that an American-built vessel called the "*Flight*," brig-rigged, arrived here on the 31st ultimo, a prize to Her Majesty's steamship "*Falcon*," Commander Heneage, captured on the 19th of last month in latitude 3° 56' south, and longitude 14° 24' west, with slaves on board; whilst chased, this vessel showed American colours, but when taken she had neither colours nor papers, and therefore could not claim the protection of any country.

2. Five hundred and three slaves alive, and one slave's dead body, were landed, and the former taken charge of in the Liberated African Department on the 1st instant.

3. These slaves are, with the exception of 100 in hospital, healthy.

4. I inclose a Return showing the average ages of the children. I have the satisfaction to state that, with the exception of the sick, these slaves are the finest and most healthy-looking I have seen landed from any previous slave-vessel.

Inclosure 2 in No. 186.

RETURN showing the Ages of the Children in the Liberated African Department landed from the Slave-brig "Flight," captured by Her Majesty's steam-ship "Falcon."

Sexes.	Ages.							Total.
	13 years.	12 years.	11 years.	10 years.	9 years.	8 years.	7 years.	
Boys	22	64	12	47	69	9	4	227
Girls .. ..	..	15	22	13	12	1	1	64
	22	79	34	60	81	10	5	291

(Signed) STEPHEN J. HILL,
Governor and General Superintendent.

(Signed) WILLIAM HILL, Clerk in Charge.

No. 187.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 9.)

(Extract.) Havana, July 15, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of a correspondence which I have lately had with the Captain-General of Cuba, respecting several infractions of the Law and of the Treaty with Spain for suppression of the Slave Trade, which I deemed it my duty to complain of to his Excellency.

With regard to the slaves landed from the "Storm King," I had the most reliable information, but the arrival here of Her Majesty's ship "Barracouta," from Nassau and Anguila, put the matter beyond doubt; Commander Wood having gone to the latter place expressly to ascertain what he could respecting the outrage committed there on the crew of a Nassau wrecker, by the master and crew of the slaver, having in his hand the declarations of the wreckers, and having seen the burnt hull of the "Storm King," as well as manifest evidence of the very recent occupation of Anguila by the slavers and their miserable victims, of which facts the Commander gave General Serrano full assurance on the occasion of his official visit, at which I was present, as well as that the number of Bozals was 601 instead of 400, as I had stated to his Excellency in my letter of the 26th ultimo.

Subsequently I received from the British Vice-Consul at Nuevitas, information as to an inquiry which had been made there with regard to a landing-place in the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe, where the authorities were instructed that I had denounced a disembarkation of slaves having been effected; but the place inquired about, whether accidentally or by design, was not that designated by me to the Captain-General—it was a place nowhere to be found in this Island, and as such the inquiry was responded to by the authorities of Puerto Principe, whereas the place designated in my communication is well known and prominent on the map of the Island. I consequently found myself compelled to insist upon the exactness of my information, and to notice the wrong designation of the landing-place in the inquiry instituted by his Excellency, which had given rise to this contradiction of my denouncement.

There is nothing, therefore, to be altered in my letter to General Serrano which gave rise to this correspondence, excepting that the "Storm King's" cargo consisted of 601 instead of 400, and that the expedition landed at Marianao or Playa de los Quemados was less numerous than I had reported it to his Excellency; the 576 at Yayabacoa, district of Principe, having undoubtedly been introduced in the manner stated, of which I have the full particulars.

Inclosure 1 in No. 187.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, June 26, 1861.*

IT is my most disagreeable duty, in obedience to the instructions of Her Majesty's Government, to complain to your Excellency of the so-frequently repeated violations of the Law and of the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, as have come within my knowledge since I did myself the honour of addressing your Excellency on the 1st instant, respecting the cases which occurred in the Department of Cuba.

In the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe there appears to be a regularly organised arrangement, under which 576 Bozal negroes were landed at the desembarcadero of Yaya-bacoa, under circumstances which, if true, prove the complicity of the authorities. Your Excellency, however, is doubtless fully informed of all the facts, and will have given such orders as will lead to the detention, and I hope the punishment, of the guilty parties.

On the 13th instant, 250 Bozal negroes were landed on one of the cays at Bahia de Cadiz from a vessel brig-rigged which Bozals were taken away from thence and sent to the interior of the island.

On the 14th two small fishing-vessels arrived at Cardenas with 150 Bozals, which they received from the same brig, and said Bozals were landed at the Astillero of Don Cristoval Pascual in Cardenas, from whence they were taken to the country.

I understand that there may be good reason for suspecting that a vessel, now in this harbour, which arrived here on the 19th instant, called the "*Ida Raynes*," under American colours, is the same from which the 400 Bozals above-mentioned were landed.

Said "*Ida Raynes*" touched at Cardenas, with a clearance from Sagua, and came to this port; but I have reason to believe that the vessel never was in Sagua, and that the clearance from that port was sent to her at Cayo Verde, or Bahia de Cadiz, whilst landing her cargo of Bozals.

The recent audacious landing of a large number of slaves at Marianao or the Playa de los Quemados, on the 17th instant, has, no doubt, occupied your Excellency's urgent attention.

This expedition is said to have consisted of upwards of 1,000 Bozals, of whom more than 800 have been successfully landed, and sold immediately at 30 ounces the good and healthy, whilst the inferior and sickly brought 24 ounces, or 408 dollars each. I am aware that it has been attempted to deceive your Excellency by the statement that this was a small affair, and that the Bozals which have been captured were nearly all the expedition; but your Excellency may be assured that my information is correct, and that the launches, &c., wherewith the landing was effected were sent from this to a place where it was known they would find the slaver-ship, from thence they came with her to the coast of this island, and landed her cargo safely, with exception of the few which your Excellency is aware have been captured.

I have information also that a cargo of Bozals has been landed in the district of Cienfuegos; but I am unable to state the particulars to your Excellency, nor am I sure that my information is correct.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 187.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, June 30, 1861.*

I HASTEN to correct an error which I find I involuntarily committed in my letter to your Excellency of the 26th instant, in consequence of wrong information (as I have since discovered) which I received respecting the landing of Bozals at Cayo Bahia de Cadiz and at Cardenas about the 13th and 14th instant.

I had been informed that those slaves had been landed from a brig called the "*Ida Raynes*," that said brig had come here with a clearance from Sagua, but that she had never been at that port, &c. The information which I received turns out to be entirely false as respects the "*Ida Raynes*," which vessel is entirely free of imputation of being concerned in slave-trading, and was duly and properly dispatched, and came from Sagua (where she, I find, had been laying for some time) to this port, where she now is.

It appears that the vessel which brought the Bozal negroes to Cayo Bahia de Cadiz

was also a brig called the "*Storm King*;" that after she had landed her cargo of slaves at the Island of Anguila the master came to Sagua, and from thence vessels were sent to Anguila, which took the Bozals to the places indicated in this and the former communication which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency.

It is stated that the vessel "*Storm King*" was destroyed, and I am informed that the captain came here and sailed for New York on board the last steamer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 3 in No. 187.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, July 5, 1861.

ON receipt of your Honour's communication of the 26th ultimo, denouncing several disembarkations which you supposed had recently taken place at various points along the coast of this island, making out the number of negroes introduced to be 1,776, I proceeded to the proper investigations, in order to discover the exactness of these landings, delaying my answer to your Honour until I was in possession of the necessary data.

The first disembarkation to which your Honour refers in your said communication was that of 576 Bozals, supposed to have been effected at the landing-place of Fayabacoa, in the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe, with the connivance of the authorities.

According to the tenor of all the reports which I have received, and which merit my belief, such an act has not taken place, nor does there even appear to exist in that jurisdiction the landing-place your Honour designates.

Neither is it exact, according to the official reports, that the 400 Bozals denounced by your Honour have been landed in the jurisdiction of Cardenas; and even your Honour appears to be convinced of this in correcting, by your subsequent communication of the 2nd instant, the report relative to the brig "*Ida Raines*," which you supposed had brought said Bozals.

Neither is there accuracy in the number of the 800 which your Honour supposes were recently landed on the coast of Marianao, which affair the tribunals had in hand prior to your Honour's communication which I am answering.

Taking all together, therefore, it results, and up to the present time there is nothing proved to the contrary, that of all the landings to which your Honour refers, only that one is exact which took place about the middle of June, in the jurisdiction of Sagua, consisting of 750 Bozals, according to the reports of the Lieutenant-Governor. †

These were transhipped at sea to coasters, which scattered them at various points of the coast. From this expedition came those landed at Marianao, in number far inferior to that of 800 designated by your Honour, and of which 17 were captured. If your Honour deducts these 17, with the 69 which have just been captured in the jurisdiction of Cardenas, from the 750, the number of negroes probably landed will be reduced to a fourth of those your Honour supposes in your communication referred to, which I am answering, and in which, besides, considerable inexactness is observable as regards the particulars, arising, no doubt, from your Honour's not being properly informed.

Moreover, I repeat to your Honour that the tribunals have in hand all the antecedents, and will decide whatever may be according to law.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

FRO. SERRANO.

Inclosure 4 in No. 187.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 8, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 5th instant, conveying to me a contradiction of the denouncements of slave-trading which I regret exceedingly it was my disagreeable duty to complain of to your Excellency in my letter of the 26th ultimo, and subsequently explanatory communication of the 30th.

I have now to state to your Excellency that, in so far as the case of the cargo brought by the brig "*Storm King*," first landed at Anguila, I have certain proofs, and I am enabled to inform your Excellency that, instead of 400, as I had reported in my former communication, 601 Bozal negroes were brought by that vessel, and were safely landed in this island.

I have no doubt as to the correctness of the information which I have received as to the 576 landed from a slaver which, in the first instance, had them in the light-house at the Paredon, although I may not have the right name of the landing-place, which is quite immaterial, as well as the jurisdiction: it is sufficient that they were landed.

I am happy to know from your Excellency that the disembarkation of Marianao was so much less than I was informed it had been.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 5 in No. 187.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 12, 1861.

YOUR Excellency's letter to me of the 5th instant, in answer to the communications which I did myself the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 26th and 30th of the previous month, gave me great concern, because the sources from which I received the information upon which I acted were such that I was by no means prepared to find myself in the false position I should have been had your Excellency's contradiction of the statements I made in my said letters been warranted, and that I had made unfounded complaints, such as they no doubt were represented to be by those who reported upon them to your Excellency.

I have therefore made diligent inquiry upon the subject, and I beg leave to respectfully state to your Excellency that the place of disembarkation mentioned in my letter of the 26th ultimo does exist, and is in the jurisdiction of Puerto Principe, according to the map of the island, which is now before me; but as I notice it is written in your Excellency's letter "Fayabacoa," and not "Yayabacoa," as designated in my communication to your Excellency, the mistake may have arisen thereon.

With regard to the other expedition alluded to by me, which was brought in from the Cay Anguila, I hope that there can be no doubt, after the proofs which were obtained by Her Majesty's ship "Barracouta," and submitted to your Excellency in my letter of the 8th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 188.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 9.)

My Lord,

Havana, July 16, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of inclosing herewith to your Lordship a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba on the 13th instant, denouncing a landing of slaves (which I have since learnt consisted of about 500) at Rio y Playa Mayabeque in the jurisdiction of Guines. This cargo was brought by a vessel, barque-rigged, which grounded on a shoal off the southern coast of the island, between Cienfuegos and Isle of Pines, and the slaves were taken out of her by three schooners, who landed them at Mayabeque. Two of said schooners, I regret to say, were, as I am informed, belonging to the Caymans, and they were paid 3,000 dollars each for their service. Their names I have been unable to learn, but I shall request Mr. Vice-Consul Smith of Trinidad, from whom I have received the information, to state the circumstances to Commander Wood, of Her Majesty's ship "Barracouta," who is cruising on that coast, so as that he may investigate the matter at the Grand Cayman, as soon as possible. Slave Trade never was so flourishing as it is now almost everywhere on the coast of Cuba.

I learn that about the 24th May a cargo of about 600 slaves was landed at Yayabacoa, Puerto Principe,* previous to the landing at the same place of the 576 denounced by me to the Captain-General in my letter of the 26th June (inclosure in my previous despatch addressed to your Lordship). And I have this day complained to General Serrano of another disembarkation, consisting of 250 Bozals, on one of the first days of this month, a short distance to the westward of Cabañas, who were brought by the coasting schooner "Bonifacia" to the estate of Santa Gertrudis, and were probably part of the 750 alluded to in the Captain-General's letter to me of the 5th instant (translation of which I inclosed

* Taken to the estate, La Merced, of Don Ramon Yradi.

in the last despatch I had the honour of addressing to your Lordship), who, his Excellency says, were reported in the middle of June by the Lieutenant-Governor of Sagua, as having been transferred at sea to coasters, who scattered them to various places on the coast.

Certain it is, that whatever slaver escapes the vigilance of our cruisers on the coast of Africa, and arrives in the waters of Cuba, the cargo, whether run from the slaver herself, or by means of transshipment at given points out at sea, or at an uninhabited island such as Anguila, is sure to be safely introduced into this island, and I believe scarcely ever otherwise than with the knowledge and connivance of the authorities.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 188.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 13, 1861.

I HAVE received information upon which I can rely, that a few days ago a cargo consisting of a very considerable number of Bozal negroes were landed at the Rio y Playa Mayabeque, district of Guines, and were taken in the first instance to the Yngenio Arango; some of them my informant saw, who were afterwards taken to the Yngenio Hicotea.

This landing has, I understand, given rise to great scandal in that district, where the slaves are being sold from the Yngenio Arango almost publicly.

I have also received information that several more expeditions from Africa are expected by the same parties who are owners of the cargo above mentioned.

Your Excellency will, no doubt, have received full intelligence of this affair, and I shall be much obliged by being favoured with such particulars as may have become known for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 188.

Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.

Havana, July 15, 1861.

I HAVE received information, on which I think I can rely, to the effect that on the first days of this month 250 Bozal negroes were landed from a coasting schooner called the "*Bonifacia*," and were taken to the estate Santa Gertrudis, near Cabañas.

I request your Excellency will be pleased to favour me with such particulars respecting this affair as may have transpired, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 189.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 9, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th ultimo, reporting to your Lordship a disembarkation of slaves at the Rio y Playa Mayabeque, from a vessel which had grounded on a shoal near the Southern Coast of this island, as well as the information I had received that two vessels belonging to the Caymans had been engaged in this transaction, I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy and translation of a letter which I have received from the Segundo Cabo, General Gasset, in the absence of General Serrano at Santo Domingo, in answer to the denouncement which on the 13th ultimo I addressed to the Captain-General, a copy of which I did myself the honour of inclosing to your Lordship with my despatch herein referred to.

Strange as it must appear to your Lordship, General Gasset denies that any such landing took place at Rio y Playa Mayabeque. Although the fact of its having been effected in the manner and by the means I have described, is known to everybody in the

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Jurisdiction of Guines, it appears that the Supreme Government has been unable to obtain anything like correct information. On the contrary, the local authorities have covered their dereliction by the false statements upon which General Gasset has founded his denial, and this does not materially surprise me, because the place near Mayabeque is covered with the estates of some of the most influential families of the island, who naturally took care that the inquiry ordered by Government should result as it has done.

But, my Lord, I have to state upon this subject that my information is nevertheless true, and I have even been able to transmit to the Governor of Jamaica the names of the two British vessels belonging to the Caymans, who, it is stated (on the authority of the captain of a Spanish ship of war who visited the shoal, and there found the burnt hull of the slaver barque), were employed on hire in this criminal transaction, viz., the "*Veronia*" and "*Esmeralda.*"

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 189.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 8, 1861.

PREVIOUS to the communication from your Honour dated the 14th ultimo, in which you denounce a disembarkation of Bozal negroes at the river and beach of Mayabeque in the jurisdiction of Guines, this Government had received confidential information of a landing effected not at that place, but at the *Zanja de Santa Isabel*, and had ordered active steps to be taken to ascertain the truth, the result of all the investigations made for that purpose by the authorities of that jurisdiction being that no such landing had taken place.

Having subsequently transmitted to the Lieutenant-Governor of Guines a copy of your Honour's official letter, I strictly enjoined him to report to me as accurately as possible upon each of the particulars therein mentioned, and he then instituted further inquiries and strict searches which yielded nothing confirmatory of your Honour's denouncement; but the zeal with which the proceedings have been conducted under energetic dispositions have been made manifest, for it was discovered that Don Ramon Pendas had introduced nine negroes into the grounds of the distillery which he owns in the district of San Nicolas, which negroes were detained on suspicion of their being Bozals, the proper proceedings being instituted and forwarded to this Government.

The inquiry relative to the detention of the said negroes having been afterwards proceeded with, it appeared that they left Havana under a pass from the Political Governor for the place where they were detained, and that there was no reason for suspecting them to belong to a recent importation, and therefore they had to be returned to their owner. This is all that I can state to your Honour in reply to your official letter referred to, being inclined to believe that the passing of this small lot of negroes from Havana to the Jurisdiction of Guines gave rise to the supposition of the landing denounced previous to your Honour's communication to this Government.

God preserve, &c.

In the absence of the Captain-General,
(Signed) MANUEL GASSET.

No. 190.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 12, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship a copy of my letter to the Captain-General of Cuba, dated the 1st instant, and also a copy and translation of the answer which I have received from the Segundo Cabo, General Gasset, in the absence of General Serrano at Santo Domingo, in which the correctness of my denouncement of a landing of Bozal negroes in the Department of Cuba is admitted and stated to have taken place at Sigua, which corresponds with the information I had acted upon in addressing the Captain-General, and my subsequent advices confirm the number which I stated to his Excellency had been landed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 190.

*Consul-General Crawford to the Captain-General of Cuba.**Havana, August 1, 1861.*

I HAVE received information from Santiago de Cuba, upon which I can rely, to the effect that shortly before the 27th ultimo a landing of 750 Bozal negroes was safely effected in that jurisdiction to windward of the capital.

These slaves, I am informed, could not be landed at any other place to the westward of Cuba, but were sold to parties in the jurisdiction at 19 ounces each, who succeeded in getting them safely on shore.

I shall be much obliged by your Excellency favouring me with such particulars as may have been discovered respecting this infraction of the law and of the Treaty, for the information of Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 190.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 8, 1861.

TO your Honour's communication of the 1st instant, in which you denounce to me the disembarkation of 750 Bozals to the windward of the Port of Cuba, without designating the exact spot where the occurrence took place, I have to reply that many days previous this Government received indications and information to the effect that there had been a disembarkation at a place called Sigua in that part of the island, but without stating the number of negroes. In consequence thereof, the proper orders were given with a view to discover the truth, and proceedings are being taken, both administratively and judicially, to bring all the circumstances to light, in order to exact, at the proper time, the responsibility of those who may appear culpable.

God preserve, &c.

In the absence of the Captain-General,
(Signed) MANUEL GASSET.

No. 191.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 15, 1861.

IN my despatch dated the 16th ultimo, I did myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship a copy of a letter of the previous day's date which I addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba, denouncing a landing of Bozal negroes, 250 in number, which I had been informed took place from on board the coasting-schooner "*Bonifacia*," and that they were taken to the Santa Gertrudis estate, near Cabañas.

I have now the honour of laying before your Lordship a translation of the answer which, under date the 10th instant, I have received from General Gasset, which is conceived in terms that would lead to the conclusion that no such landing of Bozals had taken place. But the local officers, in their report to the higher authorities, taking advantage of the mistake as to date in the information upon which I acted in that denouncement, and also the mistake of my stating the estate Santa Gertrudis to be near Cabañas, have themselves inadvertently let out the truth, for it was at Ortigosa that the "*Bonifacia*" landed the bulk of her cargo of slaves, which she was hindered from doing at La Boca de Marianao, where only a few (some 17 or 20) were got on shore; and it suited the authorities to proceed against her for the smaller part of the offence, the 250 being secured at Santa Gertrudis by the vessel's running into the Ortigosa, whence she was taken, as described in General Gasset's letter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

Inclosure in No. 191.

The Captain-General of Cuba to Consul-General Crawford.

(Translation.)

Havana, August 10, 1861.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Guanajay, to whom I transmitted, when translated, your Honour's denouncement of the 15th ultimo respecting a disembarkation of 250 Bozals in his district, and their being taken to the estate Santa Gertrudis, near Cabañas, addressed to me in reply the following official letter:—

“ Most Excellent Sir,

“ Having before me your Excellency's communication dated the 18th instant, transmitting to me that which the English Consul addressed to you relative to a disembarkation of Bozals about the beginning of this month, of which 250 are said to have been taken to the estate Santa Gertrudis, near Cabañas, from the coasting-schooner called “ *Bonifacia*,” I have to inform your Excellency that neither in the district of Cabañas, nor in any other adjoining Bahia Honda, or the coast of this district, is there any estate so called; and only in the district of Artemisa are to be found two cattle and two tillage-farms of the name referred to, which are not in any way adapted for the purpose in question. Moreover, I am enabled to state to your Excellency that the aforesaid schooner could scarcely have carried Bozals during this month, as she was seized on the 24th of June last at the entrance of Ortigosa, in the jurisdiction of Bahia Honda, by the Lieutenant-Governor of that place, in compliance with an order from the Alcalde Mayor of the Cerro, the Judge who is carrying on the trial in the matter of the disembarkation of Bozals at the creek of Marianao, and which schooner was sent to this port subject to the order of said Alcalde Mayor.

“ Furthermore, I am enabled to inform your Excellency that in the district of Bahia Honda, and very near the bay or entrance to Ortigosa, there is a sugar estate, called Santa Gertrudis, and I can assure your Excellency that the greatest tranquillity prevails in this jurisdiction as regards the disembarkation of Bozals. This is all that I can report to your Excellency in obedience to your instructions, which I transcribe to your Honour for your information, and in answer to your above-mentioned official letter.

God preserve, &c.

In the absence of the Captain-General,
(Signed) MANUEL GASSET.

No. 192.

Consul-General Crawford to Lord J. Russell.—(Received September 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, August 21, 1861.

I HAVE the honour of acknowledging the receipt of Lord Wodehouse's despatch of the 31st ultimo, transmitting to me, for my information, an extract of a despatch from the Governor of Sierra Leone to the Colonial Office, reporting the capture by Her Majesty's ship “ *Falcon*,” of an American-built vessel named the “ *Flight*,” with slaves on board, but without colours or papers to denote her nationality.

The “ *Flight* ” is reported here to have formerly belonged to Boston, and to have sailed for the coast of Africa direct from a northern port of the United States, but it is most probable that she was in reality owned and fitted out by parties in this island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 193.

Consul-General Crawford to Earl Russell.—(Received October 22.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 12, 1861.

IT is some time since I have had occasion to report to your Lordship the sailing of any vessels intended for the Slave Trade. This, I consider, is attributable to two causes: the interruption of trade with the United States in American vessels, for which reason few or no suitable craft have come here which could be purchased for such Traffic, and the glutted state of the market here for slaves having for a while rendered expeditions to Africa less productive than they had been.

This last reason for the short suspension of this favourite branch of Spanish enterprise, had it continued, would have been our greatest security for suppression, or at any rate for a diminution of the horrors of the Slave Trade.

But although the prices current for Bozals are not improving, I notice a disposition for again launching into adventures, and have to report to your Lordship that a barque, under Mexican colours, called the "*Carmen*" (formerly the "*Culloma*," as an American), 350 tons register, Gibbs, master, cleared on the 3rd instant for San Thomé, and has since sailed from this port to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

No. 194.

Consul-General Crawford to Earl Russell.—(Received October 30.)

My Lord,

Havana, September 19, 1861.

I HAVE the satisfaction of reporting to your Lordship that Her Catholic Majesty's steam-vessel of war "*Neptuno*" has captured near Caibarien, a brigantine, without colours, having on board, as is variously stated, from 612 to 660 Bozal negroes, said to have been the American vessel "*Tocoa*" which sailed from New York.

The "*Neptuno*" arrived here with her prize on the 16th instant, and the slaves have been taken possession of by the authorities.

This slaver had been detained by a United States' cruizer and sent to Key West, but was released and came to Cardenas, whence she sailed for New York on the 16th of March last, and thence proceeded to the Coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOS. T. CRAWFORD.

SPAIN. (*Consular*)—*St. Jago de Cuba.*

No. 195.

Consul Forbes to Lord J. Russell.—(Received July 15.)

(Extract.)

St. Jago de Cuba, May 11, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith, for your Lordship's information and guidance, translations of a correspondence which has taken place between the Governor of this province and myself, relative to an infraction of the Treaties for the suppression of the African Slave Trade, committed about the beginning of last month, in the vicinity of Guantanamo, by the disembarkation of a cargo of Africans, reported to be about 660 in number.

I likewise transmit to your Lordship a copy of the Captain-General Serrano's Proclamation, dated the 28th March last, giving publicity to the measures to be adopted by him against all parties engaged in that illicit and inhuman Traffic; and on referring to Governor Letona's despatch of the 11th instant (Inclosure No. 6) your Lordship will observe that he acted in good faith and in conformity with Articles 4 and 5 of said Proclamation, by arresting the consignee of the slaver, and his accomplices, and sending them on to the Havana for trial; and it is notorious that, had the law been impartially administered, there is no doubt that the guilty parties would have been convicted (as there was the most conclusive proof of their criminality), and sentenced to a certain period of penal servitude. The guilty parties were, however, immediately released on their arrival, and the consignee (Ducouran) returned to this port by a coasting steamer ("Maisi") which sailed thence on the following day.

I have to acquaint your Lordship that the disembarkation denounced by me in my despatch of the 13th instant (Inclosure No. 7) was not effected. The vessel was at anchor two days, and some of her equipage sent on shore, but difficulties arose, and she put to sea again, and was seen for several days afterwards cruising off the land. The cargo, it is said, was a large one, and sickness and want of provisions prevailed on board.

Inclosure 1 in No. 195.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, April 8, 1861.

IT is my painful duty to bring to your Excellency's notice a flagrant infraction of the Treaties existing between our respective nations for the suppression of the African Slave Trade which has been committed within the last few days, by the landing of a cargo of slaves at Puerto Escondido, or its vicinity.

In conformity with my instructions from Her Britannic Majesty's Government, I have to request that your Excellency will be pleased to issue such orders as will lead to the seizure and confiscation of the vessel and her illicit cargo, as well as the apprehension of the guilty parties engaged in this nefarious Traffic, in order that they may be brought to condign punishment for their criminal conduct.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 195.

The Lieutenant-Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, April 9, 1861.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, informing me that a few days ago a disembarkation of African slaves had taken place at Puerto Escondido or in its vicinity.

In reply, I have to inform your Honour that on the 6th current a similar notice was confidentially received by this Government, though without specifying the exact spot where it was supposed they had been disembarked, and that steps were immediately taken to investigate the matter, and to conform with all the other requisites that the laws demand.

God preserve, &c.

In the absence of his Honour the Commander-in-chief,
The Lieutenant-Governor,
(Signed) PEDRO P. CRUCES.

Inclosure 3 in No. 195.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, April 22, 1861.

WITH reference to the despatch which I had the honour to address to your Excellency under date of the 8th instant, denouncing a disembarkation, near Guantanamo, of negroes from the coast of Africa, to the number of 660 (as I have since been informed by an anonymous letter directed to me on the 9th current, copy of which is herewith transmitted for your perusal), I have to inform your Excellency that it is currently reported that another debarkation of Africans has been effected at the same place, and by the same parties, within the last few days, and that two more cargoes are shortly expected from the coast.

It may not possibly have come to your Excellency's knowledge, although it is notorious, that a concession of sterile land, known as the "Posesion de Ocuja," in which Puerto Escondido is situated, has been lately purchased by parties resident in this place and the Havana, for the avowed purpose of reviving and carrying on the African Slave Trade in this province, in violation of existing Treaties for the suppression of that odious Traffic.

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

Inclosure 4 in No. 195.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, April 22, 1861.

I HAVE received your Honour's official communication of to-day, advising me that it is currently reported that another disembarkation of negroes has been effected at the same place as that which is now being investigated in the jurisdiction of Guantanamo, and that it is notorious that a portion of sterile land has been purchased, in which Puerto Escondido is situated, for the purpose of reviving the Slave Trade.

I already had notice that another landing was expected, and also that measures to prevent it had been taken by the functionaries commissioned by me, in that territory, to investigate that of the 2nd current. I conclude that the disembarkation has not succeeded, because, since that already known, no negro has been introduced, according to the latest authentic official accounts.

With regard to the purchase of the sterile land, I take note of this information, and shall make such use of it as I can in my system of vigilance for the suppression of the African Trade.

In conclusion, I beg to inform your Honour that in consequence of the measures I have taken, anticipating your communication of 8th current, investigations have been made, perhaps exceeding the limits prescribed by the laws on the subject; various persons have been arrested, and 22 negroes have been captured and placed at the disposal of the judicial authority who institutes the criminal proceedings, and who has to decide on the case.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) ANTO. LOPEZ DE LETONA.

Inclosure 5 in No. 195.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, May 11, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that I am credibly informed that a suspicious vessel, supposed to be a slaver with a large cargo of Africans on board, has been seen off the land on the coast of Guantanamo for some days past; the appearance of said vessel I am assured is positive, and as the parties interested in the expedition are on the spot, a landing may soon be expected.

If, therefore, my information should prove to be correct, and in case a disembarkation of the negroes has already been effected, I trust your Excellency will be pleased to issue such orders as will lead to the capture and seizure of said vessel and her contraband cargo, and award such punishment as your Excellency may consider meet to the parties interested in this illicit and inhuman Traffic.

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

Inclosure 6 in No. 195.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, May 11, 1861.

I HAVE perused the official communication which, under to-day's date, your Honour has been pleased to make to me, stating that you are informed that a suspicious vessel, supposed to be a slaver with a large cargo of Africans on board, has been seen off the coast of Guantanamo for some days past; that the appearance of said vessel is positive; and that, as the parties interested in the expedition are on the spot, a disembarkation may soon be expected: at the same time expressing a hope that, in the event of this having already taken place, I should issue such orders as may lead to the capture and seizure of said vessel and her illicit cargo; with the rest that your Honour thinks fit to communicate relative to the landing which you deem possible.

In reply, I beg to state that I received some days ago the information your Honour now gives me, and in virtue thereof Her Majesty's steamer "Bazan" was dispatched to reconnoitre the coast between Guantanamo and this port, and returned after having complied with my instructions, reporting that the only vessel met with during the trip was an Anglo-American barque in danger, to which assistance was rendered, as your Honour will have learned from the account given in the newspapers of this city.

Nevertheless, in case your Honour's communication should refer to some other vessel suspected of being a slaver, your Honour may be assured that I have ordered such preventive measures to be taken, by the Lieutenant-Governors of the Province, and the Captains of Districts in this jurisdiction, as to induce me to hope that a landing will not be effected without the seizure of the cargo, and arrest of the importers and their accomplices; for in this matter, as in all those affecting the "national honour and the dignity of the Government," my extreme strictness is already proved.

Your Honour has just seen that I have carried matters to the utmost extent of my power, with the wealthy merchant M. Charles Ducourau, the Lieutenant-Governor of Guantanamo, the Captain of the District of Yateras, in that jurisdiction, and the manager of the estate "Esperanza," all considered as accomplices in the late disembarkation effected in that quarter.

In conclusion, I hope that your Honour will continue to acquaint me with all that may come to your knowledge regarding this important subject, being assured that the information will be appreciated as it deserves, and that I shall issue such instructions, in accordance with it, as may best conduce to a satisfactory result.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed) ANTO. LOPEZ DE LETONA.

Inclosure 7 in No. 195.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, May 13, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's courteous despatch of the 11th instant, in reply to mine of same date, and in virtue of the solicitude

evinced by you in that despatch to carry out faithfully, so far as lies in your power, the stipulations of the existing Treaties between our respective nations for the suppression of the Slave Trade, I have now the honour to acquaint your Excellency that it has just come to my knowledge, from undoubted authority, that a disembarkation of 1,020 Africans had been effected on the 8th instant at a small place called Macambo, about twenty leagues further up the coast than Puerto Escondido, for the same parties.

I am given to understand that their object in selecting this point was to avoid the intervention of the Guantánamo authorities, as Macambo is just beyond that jurisdiction.

The greater part of the cargo are to be brought, or are already in Guantánamo, so my information runs, and the rest are to be shipped at Baracoa per steamer "*Maysi*," for the Havana on the 19th instant.

I have no doubt but that your Excellency will be pleased to adopt the most stringent measures for the apprehension and confiscation of the Africans, and award the corresponding punishment to the parties interested in the illicit Traffic.

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

Inclosure 8 in No. 195.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, May 14, 1861.

IN virtue of your Honour's official communication of yesterday, I have adopted proper measures in order that both the respective authorities and the Commissioners I expressly dispatch in the direction of the Guantánamo and Baracoa coasts, may investigate and follow up, without desisting, whatever may turn out to be true regarding the landing of 1,020 negroes at Macambo, as your Honour states, detaining any negroes that they may find, and in other respects complying with the Treaties and laws.

God preserve, &c. (Signed) ANTO. LOPEZ DE LETONA.

Inclosure 9 in No. 195.

Circular issued by the Captain-General of Cuba, March 28, 1861.

[See Inclosure in No. 178.]

No. 196.

Consul Forbes to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 9.)

My Lord,

St. Jago de Cuba, June 25, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a translation of a despatch received by me from his Excellency Governor Letona, under date of 31st May last, and a copy of my reply dated 3rd current, being a continuation of a correspondence between us relative to the suppression of the African Slave Trade recently attempted to be revived in this province.

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

Inclosure 1 in No. 196.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, May 31, 1861.

ADVISED that the schooner "*Margarita*" was coming from Havana to be fitted out here for the coast of Africa, I have taken the proper measures to prevent her clearance, and I flatter myself that the intentions of the adventurers will be frustrated.

I think fit to acquaint your Honour that, according to information received from the Lieutenant-Governors of Baracoa and Guantánamo, and the Gefe de Estado Mayor, not only is the disembarkation which your Honour advised me of as having been effected at the place called Macambo unconfirmed, but also on account of the peculiar condition of those districts, it is not probable that a landing will be attempted in the whole of that

coast. It is stated, notwithstanding, that a suspicious vessel has been in sight off several parts of the coast, and, consequently, vigilance has been redoubled.

Nevertheless, as your Honour knows my earnest desire neither to permit the Traffic in Slaves, nor to allow this eagerness to be frustrated, it having happened that the Superior Government has received anonymous notice that a landing has taken place in Baracoa with the consent of the authorities, I trust your Honour will be pleased to communicate to me anything you may know about the affair, in order that in such case I may redouble the preventive measures I have taken, or satisfy the Superior Government as to the truth of the anonymous communications before referred to.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

ANTO. LOPEZ DE LETONA.

Inclosure 2 in No. 196.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, June 3, 1861.

I HAVE much pleasure in acknowledging receipt of the despatch which your Excellency did me the honour of addressing to me under date of 31st ultimo, relative to the schooner "*Margarita*," which arrived in this port from Havana last week, and which is supposed to be fitting out for the African coast, and destined for the Slave Trade, and have to tender you my best thanks for the prompt and energetic measures taken by your Excellency to frustrate the intentions of the adventurers.

I have to acquaint your Excellency that I have received no intelligence since the 20th ultimo, of the slaver which endeavoured to effect a disembarkation of her cargo at Macambo on 13th ultimo; she had been seen for some days afterwards cruising off the land, and it is currently reported that she landed, somewhere on that coast, about 200 negroes in a sickly and dying state, all of whom had since succumbed to disease, brought on, in a great measure, through want of the common necessaries of life, as the vessel, it appears, was short of provisions.

I thank you sincerely for the cordial manner in which your Excellency is co-operating with me in endeavouring to carry out faithfully the stipulations of existing Treaties between our respective nations for the suppression of the African Slave Trade, and I shall have much pleasure, in compliance with your Excellency's request, in communicating to you frankly all information worthy of credence which may come to my knowledge, respecting the Traffic in Slaves which certain parties are endeavouring to revive in this province.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES FORBES.

No. 197.

Vice-Consul Beattie to Lord J. Russell.—(Received August 29.)

My Lord,

St. Jago de Cuba, July 31, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of your Lordship, copies of a despatch dated 8th July, addressed by Mr. Consul Forbes to Governor Letona, in regard to two reported landings of negroes, and of his Excellency's reply; also copy of an "*oficio*," of date the 11th July, received from the Alcalde Mayor Segundo, by Mr. Consul Forbes, and of his answer of 12th of same month.

No further correspondence has taken place on the matter.

I am inclined to think that no fresh landing has taken place in Guantánamo, but with regard to a disembarkation of slaves at Sigua, I must indorse Mr. Consul Forbes' opinion, that such a landing was effected, and, I believe I may add, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

I would call your Lordship's attention to the marked difference in the course of procedure taken by Governor Letona on the first landing of slaves in Guantánamo about the 3rd April, and that instituted by his Excellency after the Sigua landing was brought to his notice.

Six days after the illegal transaction was reported, the tardy machinery of the Alcalde's tribunal was set in motion, chiefly, I have been informed, with a view of proving the English Consul's denunciation to be unfounded. The prompt measures taken by his Excellency in the first instance were not approved of in Havana.

Your Lordship will observe by Mr. Consul Forbes' letter of the 16th July to

Mr. Consul-General Crawford that the negroes landed at Sigua were Bozals believed to have been reshipped from a leeward port of this island. If this report is correct, it only proves the impunity with which this illegal traffic is pursued, and the security from all interference on which the slave-traders calculate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RICD. HUDSON BEATTIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 197.

Consul Forbes to the Governor of St. Jago de Cuba.

Most Excellent Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, July 8, 1861.

IN fulfilment of my official duty, and in compliance with the wish lately expressed by your Excellency, I have the honour to advise, that not only is a second slaver reported to be off the coast of Guantanamo, ready for a disembarkation of slaves, but it is currently rumoured that a landing of negroes has, within a day or two, been effected in Sigua Bay.

Your Excellency will, I hope, after verifying the correctness of said reports, give such orders as will secure the confiscation of the slaves, and the punishment of the parties interested in this illegal Traffic.

I have been informed that the vessel previously seen off the port of Macambo, after landing her sick, and provisioning, proceeded to Bahia Honda, and discharged her cargo.

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

Inclosure 2 in No. 197.

The Governor of St. Jago de Cuba to Consul Forbes.

(Translation.)

Cuba, July 9, 1861.

I HAVE received your Honour's communication of yesterday's date, acquainting me that it is currently reported in this city that a vessel is on the point of landing Bozal negroes in Guantanamo, and that another disembarkation had been effected in Sigua Bay two days ago.

On the 5th I received confidential information relative to that at Sigua, and I hastened to dispatch a Commissioner, the result of whose investigations convinces me that no landing has taken place there.

On the 7th I was informed, also confidentially, that a disembarkation was to be or was being effected in Guantanamo. I immediately advised the Lieutenant-Governor, and ordered the police to investigate the matter. The former has not replied, but the latter assures me yesterday that in the city they neither say nor know anything about it.

Notwithstanding this, and in consideration of the intelligence contained in your Honour's said communication, I again issue orders that no effort be wanting in investigating the truth.

Which I communicate to your Honour for your information and necessary effects.
God preserve, &c. (Signed) ANTO. LOPEZ DE LETONA.

Inclosure 3 in No. 197.

The Alcalde Mayor Segundo to Consul Forbes.

*Office of the Alcalde Mayor Segundo of St. Jago de Cuba,
Cuba, July 11, 1861.*

(Translation.)

IN the proceedings which I institute in order to determine whether a landing of Bozal negroes has been effected or not in Sigua Bay, in consequence of a communication from your Honour under date of the 8th current, which, with others from the Governor of the Province, was received in this tribunal last night, I have thought fit to address your Honour in the present letter, in order that, should you have received further news concerning the attempt since your said communications, you may be pleased to forward it,

with all the details, stating, if there is no objection, the names of the parties who are aware of what has taken place, with as many particulars as you think can assist in determining the truth of a matter which so much concerns the tranquillity of the Province, and the good faith of the Treaties.

God preserve, &c.

(Signed)

EDUARDO LOPEZ PELEGRIN.

Inclosure 4 in No. 197.

Consul Forbes to the Alcalde Mayor Segundo.

Sir,

St. Jago de Cuba, July 12, 1861.

IN reply to your Honour's oficio dated 11th current (received by me this day), requesting me to report any further information I might be in possession of, as to whether or not a disembarkation of Bozal negroes had taken place in the Bay of Sigua, I have respectfully to inform your Honour that since I addressed Brigadier Letona on the 8th current, I have no reason to believe that my information was erroneous; on the contrary, whatever result the "diligencias" now commenced in your Honour's tribunal may give, I shall probably be inclined to maintain the correctness of the statement contained in said communication.

I apprehend your Honour, in supposing that I can be called upon to name parties, and obtain for the Government details which are clearly confined to the province of the police, or other subalterns of the Government, misunderstands the nature of my Consular duty, which is fulfilled by my denouncing (as I have done) such infractions of the Slave Trade Treaties as the one in question, after which the local authority, if acting in good faith, can have little difficulty in discovering the parties engaged in such illicit Traffic, and in tracing the whereabouts of the negroes imported.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

JAMES FORBES.

Inclosure 5 in No. 197.

Consul Forbes to Consul-General Crawford.

(Extract.)

St. Jago de Cuba, July 16, 1861

I HAVE the honour to transmit, for your information, copies of a correspondence which I have had with Brigadier Letona, and the Alcalde Mayor Segundo, in regard to a reported landing of slaves at Sigua.

The number of negroes stated to have been landed is from 600 to 700, but whether they are from Africa, or from another part of this island, I am not aware.

It is rumoured that Bozal negroes which had been landed in the district of Trinidad, and found no market there owing to the crisis, had been offered for sale to parties here, deliverable in this neighbourhood. If this be true, the above may be a coastwise shipment.

The Chief of Police has resigned, and has retracted from his first assertion that a landing had taken place.

UNITED STATES.

No. 198.

Lord Lyons to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 8, 1861.)

My Lord, *Washington, December 23, 1860.*
WITH reference to my despatches of the 3rd and 8th instant, I have the honour to inclose copies of a further note and its inclosures which I have received from the United States' Secretary of State, with regard to the American barque "*Buckeye*."
I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 198.

Judge Black to Lord Lyons.

My Lord, *Department of State, Washington, December 19, 1860.*
REFERRING to your Lordship's note of the 30th ultimo, relative to the case of the barque "*Buckeye*," which vessel is charged with having been engaged in the Slave Trade, and to the reply of this Department, I now have the honour to inclose to you, for your information, the copy of a communication of the 15th instant from the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject, from which it would seem that the "*Buckeye*" belongs to the port of New York, whence, in May last, she is said to have cleared with a legitimate cargo for the West Coast of Africa, and that it has been suggested to the Secretary of the Navy to call the attention of the proper officers of the navy to the case with a view to the apprehension of the vessel.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. S. BLACK.

Inclosure 2 in No. 198.

Mr. Thomas to General Cass.

Sir, *Treasury Department, December 15, 1860.*
IN reply to your communication of the 3rd instant, submitting copy of a note from Lord Lyons relative to the American barque "*Buckeye*," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade, I transmit herewith a copy of the report of the 13th instant from the Collector of Customs at New York, to which port the said vessel appears to belong, and from whence she is stated to have cleared with a legitimate cargo for the West Coast of Africa.

Copies of Lord Lyons' note and the report of the Collector at New York have been furnished to the Secretary of the Navy, with the suggestion that the attention of the proper officers of the navy may be specially called to the case of the suspected vessel, with a view to her apprehension.

I am, &c.
(Signed) PHILIP F. THOMAS,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Inclosure 3 in No. 198.

Mr. Schell to Mr. Toucey.

Sir,

Collector's Office, New York, December 13, 1860.

I AM in receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, inclosing a communication from the Department of State, transmitting to you copy of note from Lord Lyons in relation to a barque called the "*Buckeye*," alleged to belong to this port, and to be engaged in the Slave Trade.

I have the honour to report that a register was issued from this office to the barque "*Buckeye*," James G. Baker, sole owner, Erastus H. Booth, master, on the 18th May, 1860; that she cleared from this port for St. George del Mina, West Coast of Africa, on the 21st of May last, her manifest showing the usual trading cargo for the African coast, and the appurtenances for a return cargo of palm oil.

The flag of the United States being at the date of the sailing of the "*Buckeye*" from New York, and at the date of the visit to her on the coast of Africa by Her Britannic Majesty's officer, thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, with thirty-three white stars in a blue field, it will be seen by Lieutenant Burton's despatch that the "*Buckeye*" at the period referred to was not sailing under American colours.

The papers inclosed in your letter are herewith returned.

I am, &c.

(Signed) AUGUSTUS SCHELL.

No. 199.

Lord Lyons to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 16, 1861.)

My Lord,

Washington, December 31, 1860.

BEING unable to obtain an interview with the Secretary of State, who has been for the last few days almost unintermittingly in attendance at Cabinet Councils, I read to-day to Mr. Hunter, the Chief Clerk, who is acting as Assistant Secretary of State, your Lordship's despatch of the 15th instant, and containing an answer to General Cass's observations concerning the communications of Her Majesty's Government on the subject of the Slave Trade.

I placed a copy of the despatch in Mr. Hunter's hands, and he promised to call the attention of Judge Black to it without delay.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

No. 200.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, February 9, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from Commodore Edmonstone, which has been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty,* containing information relative to the captures of slave-vessels recently made by American cruisers on the African coast, and reporting the cordial co-operation that exists between the two squadrons engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade on that coast.

I am, &c.

(Ssgned) J. RUSSELL.

No. 201.

Lord Lyons to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord,

Washington, February 2, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith an extract from a despatch from Governor Bayley, and a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Archibald,

* Class A, No. 59.

both relative to an outrage perpetrated at one of the Bahama Cays by the master of a slave-vessel wrecked in the neighbourhood, which appears to have been the American vessel "*Atlantic*."

I have sent to Governor Bayley a copy of Mr. Archibald's despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure 1 in No. 201.

Governor Bayley to Lord Lyons.

(Extract.)

Nassau, January 10, 1861.

I TAKE this opportunity to apprise your Lordship of a daring outrage which was perpetrated by a slave captain on one of our islands last month. A slaver was wrecked eight or nine miles from Cay Lobos, on which the English Government have erected a lighthouse at a great expense. The Captain proceeded with a part of his crew to Cay Lobos, took forcible possession of the lighthouse boat, compelled (as is stated) two of our colonial schooners to assist in saving his cargo, landed his slaves on the Cay, where they remained several days, forced one of the schooners to carry him to Nuevitas, where he procured a brig, which crossed over and conveyed the slaves to Cuba.

My motive in bringing this subject to your Lordship's notice is this. From the report made by persons whom I despatched officially to the scene of the wreck it would seem that there is ground for believing that the wrecked slaver was the American vessel "*Atlantic*," of 600 or 660 tons, commanded in December 1859 by one Davoll; that she had sailed and was equipped as a whaler, and that the new York agents of the vessel were Abranches, Almeida, and Co.

Perhaps it may be in your Lordship's power to ascertain from official or private sources whether this hypothesis be correct or not. Upon the verification of the report will, I presume, depend the action of Her Majesty's Government.

Inclosure 2 in No. 201.

Consul Archibald to Lord Lyons.

My Lord.

New York, February 1, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of yesterday's date, inclosing an extract from a letter of Governor Bayley, of the Bahamas, and requesting me to endeavour to ascertain for Mr. Bayley's information, whether a slave-vessel wrecked on one of the Bahama cays was the "*Atlantic*," an American vessel, of which Abranches, Almeida, and Co., of New York, were the agents.

In reply, I have the honour to acquaint your Lordship that Governor Bayley is quite correct in his supposition, and that the vessel in question was the "*Atlantic*," an American ship, of which Abranches, Almeida, and Co., of this city, were the agents; that she had cleared from this port ostensibly on a whaling voyage, under the command of Davoll, on the 9th April, 1860. I reported to Her Majesty's Government, very shortly after the occurrence, the wreck of this vessel at the Bahamas, and the circumstances attending the transfer of her slaves to Nuevitas.

I beg leave to observe that this vessel has formed the subject of frequent correspondence between myself and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and that I am familiar with her history and movements from the time it was first resolved to employ her in the Slave Trade, to which it may perhaps be interesting briefly to advert. She first attracted my attention while at the Island of St. Thomas, nearly two years ago, from reports to me that negotiations were in progress for her purchase and employment in the Slave Trade. On her return thence to this port, she was purchased here from a naturalized American citizen named Maciel, a native of Portugal, by Abranches, Almeida and Co., on account of the firm of San Miguel, Frangamilla, and Pla, of Havana, the real owners. The vessel was held, however, in the name of Abranches, who had become a naturalized American citizen, prior to the purchase (some time previously) of a celebrated slaver called the "*Haidee*."

Thus owned the "*Atlantic*" was sent to New Bedford, a whaling port, to fit out ostensibly for a South Sea whaling voyage. While there, in the summer of 1859, she attracted the notice of the Federal officers, and was seized on suspicion of being a slaver.

She was detained for some time under examination. Abranches proceeded thither as her owner, and having removed or lulled the suspicions of the authorities, the ship was, on his entering into the requisite bonds, permitted to be cleared, and to proceed on the supposed whaling voyage, under the command of one Silva. I nevertheless reported her at the time as a slaver, and furnished to the Secretary of State a full description of her, and particularly of her movements.

She proceeded to Fayal, and there Silva falling sick the command of her was turned over to Davoll, who had gone out in her, and it was given out that, owing to Silva's illness and inability to proceed, the voyage was broken up and the ship would consequently return to Boston. This was but a ruse, for it was then intended that the ship should proceed to the African Coast for slaves. But the United States' Consul at Fayal, taking advantage of the announcement that the vessel was returning to Boston, placed on board of her a shipwrecked crew of about twenty men to be carried to that port. This was such an embarrassment that the "*Atlantic*" actually returned not to Boston, but to this port. Here she lay inactive for some five or six months, being watched by my agents, and again cleared for a southern whaling voyage on the 9th April, 1860, under the command of Davoll,* her ownership still standing in the name of Abranches, and his house acting as her agents.

I immediately reported her departure, and kept Her Majesty's Government advised of all the intelligence I could acquire in reference to her movements. I suspected at the time that she would proceed to the Mozambique channel, and from the large size of the vessel and other circumstances I think it very probable she obtained her cargo of negroes there. At all events she escaped the vigilance of the cruisers, and next turned up at the Bahamas as the "*America*." So soon as I heard of her wreck there, I reported the intelligence to the Secretary of State, as I have above mentioned.

Mr. Abranches left this for Havana a few days since, having returned from thence but a few weeks ago. The Mr. Pla of the Havana firm above mentioned, was, with other parties, last week imprisoned at Havana on some charge connected with the importation of another cargo of slaves, I believe that of the "*Don Juan*," a vessel reported by me.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ARCHIBALD.

No. 202.

Lord Lyons to Lord J. Russell.—(Received February 18.)

My Lord,

Washington, February 4, 1861.

HAVING been unable to obtain an interview with the Secretary of State, I this morning, in execution of the instruction contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th of December last, requested the Chief Clerk of the State Department to express to him the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government had learnt the effective co-operation of United States' cruisers (as evinced by recent captures) in the efforts of Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 203.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, March 8, 1861.

WITH reference to Mr. Irvine's despatch of the 23rd of October last, I transmit to your Lordship herewith, for your information, copies of a correspondence between this Department and the Colonial Office, upon the subject of the suggestion that slaves captured by United States' cruisers off the coast of Cuba should be sent as free labourers to the British West Indies; and I have to instruct you again to bring this subject before the United States' Government when a favourable opportunity offers itself.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

* The ship was reported in some of the daily papers to be cleared by the master; in others, by J. T. Wood. The name of the master at the time of her clearance was Barker, an assumed name probably; but Davoll was the real commander.

Inclosure 1 in No. 203.

Sir F. Rogers to Mr. Hammond.

Sir, *Downing Street, February 22, 1861.*
 I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for the consideration of Lord John Russell, the copy of a despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, transmitting a correspondence relative to slaves captured by United States' vessels and taken into American ports.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) FREDERIC ROGERS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 203.

Governor Darling to the Duke of Newcastle.

My Lord Duke, *King's House, Jamaica, January 7, 1861.*
 I HAVE been requested by gentlemen, who are members of the House of Assembly, interested in the successful issue of the attempts now making to augment the working population of the island, by means of immigration, to bring under your Grace's notice the inclosed correspondence between a mercantile house here and one in Baltimore, having reference to the disposal of the victims of the Slave Trade, who are taken into ports of the United States by cruisers of that nation.

2. Although the letter from Mr. Assistant-Secretary Trescot to Mr. David Gray is conclusive as to the impossibility of permitting the liberated Africans in question to be sent to a British colony in the existing state of the law upon the subject, yet it is thought possible that an alteration of the law might be accomplished as the result of a negotiation with that object by Her Majesty's Government.

3. With my knowledge of the many difficulties which at the present moment the question involves, I have felt it right to discourage the expectation that Her Majesty's Government will be disposed to engage in such a negotiation; but the advantage which would be secured to Jamaica if the proposal could be carried to a successful issue is so manifest, that I venture to express a hope that it may, with that view, receive the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, should the objections to which I have referred hereafter cease to exist, or be materially diminished in importance.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) C. H. DARLING.

Inclosure 3 in No. 203.

Messrs. A. Lindo and Brothers to Mr. Gray.

My dear Sir, *Port Maria, Jamaica, July 24, 1860.*
 THE subject of want of emigration suitable to the requirements of this island is one that so deeply interests its inhabitants that their attention is naturally alive to every chance that offers to afford a source of supply. The present system, to say the least of it, is one that is very slow in its operation from the distance from which the emigrants are brought, expensive from the same cause, and from the anomaly of our having to pay the passage of the emigrants back to their own country after a short term of years, and often ineffectual, from emigrants of a description unsuited to the labour they are required to perform being brought here.

2. My attention has of late been drawn to the number of captured slave-vessels whose cargoes have in the first instance been taken to the United States, and removed thence to Liberia. I also observe that part of the press of your country begin to complain of the expensive transit of these people to Liberia, to which place, when they are taken, they seem by most reports to be more likely to retrograde to barbarism than to advance in civilization.

3. What is your opinion of the way in which your Government would meet an offer from the Government of this Island to bring these people here at our own expense as free emigrants; do you think that such a proposal would be favourably received? The advantage of this source of emigration over the present one is incalculable, for you may fancy at what an expense we must be to bring labourers here from China and the East

Indies, as compared with what it would be to bring them from any point in the United States. The interests of the commercial community of your country are so intimately connected with this and other islands in these seas, that the furtherance of their welfare and prosperity should be an object of some national interest to you. My object, therefore, in this correspondence is not only to obtain your own views of the subject, but also to ask of you to gather from the men most likely to have a voice in the matter in your Legislature what their opinions on the subject may be. I hope you will not consider this troublesome. Any correspondence that may arise between yourself and such parties bearing on the subject will be very welcome to

(Signed) A. LINDO AND BROTHERS.

Inclosure 4 in No. 203.

Mr. Gray to Mr. Lindo.

My dear Sir,

Baltimore, October 10, 1860.

I DULY received your favour of the 24th July: contents claimed my attention. The proposition therein touching the captured slaves or Africans I thought could not be entertained by our Government, owing to the fact that such cases are provided for in a way that leaves no discretion. In this opinion I am sustained by our venerable Secretary of State, General Cass, to whose despatch and our correspondence herewith I beg to invite your attention.

I am, &c.

(Signed) DAVID GRAY.

Inclosure 5 in No. 203.

Mr. Gray to General Cass.

Sir,

Baltimore, September 25, 1860.

THE inclosed letter from a gentleman in the Island of Jamaica has reference to the removal of captured slaves brought to the United States. To be brief, he interrogates me thus:—"What is your opinion of the way in which your Government would meet an offer from the Government of this island to bring these people here, at our own expense, as free emigrants: do you think such a proposal would be favourably received?" Being desirous to give this gentleman a correct idea of how such a proposition would likely be entertained by our Government, I would be greatly obliged to have an expression of your views in reply thereto, if compatible with your official position.

I am, &c.

(Signed) DAVID GRAY.

Inclosure 6 in No. 203.

Mr. Trescot to Mr. Gray.

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, September 26, 1860.

YOUR letter of the 25th instant has been received. In reply I have to state that a proposition on the part of the Danish Government, such as you refer to, has already been made to this Government, and declined. The arrangement proposed could not be entered into on account of the existence of a law of the United States which provides a positive mode of disposal for the slave cargoes of all vessels captured while in the prosecution of the African Slave Trade by United States' vessels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) WM. HENRY TRESBOT, *Assistant Secretary.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 203.

Lord Wodehouse to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir,

Foreign Office, February 28, 1861.

I HAVE laid before Lord John Russell your letter of the 22nd instant, inclosing, for his Lordship's consideration, a copy of a despatch from the Governor of Jamaica, covering copies of a correspondence which has passed between a mercantile firm in that island and one in Baltimore relative to a suggestion on the part of the Jamaica house that the slaves captured by United States' cruizers off the Cuban Coast should be sent for liberation to the British West Indian Colonies instead of being sent back to Africa.

I am, in reply, to state to you, for the information of his Grace the Duke of Newcastle, that in the month of September last his Lordship instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Washington to propose to the United States' Government that an arrangement should be come to by which Her Majesty's Government should undertake to receive and liberate in the British Colonies in the West Indies the slaves captured by American cruizers, who are now, at a great expense, sent back to Africa.

The United States' Government declined this proposal, but Lord J. Russell will instruct Lord Lyons to bring the subject again before the United States' Government when a favourable opportunity offers itself.

I am, &c.
(Signed) WODEHOUSE.

No. 204.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord

Foreign Office, March 28, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Archer," which has been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty,* reporting his having boarded the American brig "Nancy," for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 205.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, April 17, 1861.

IN the despatches which I addressed to your Lordship on the 28th of April and the 22nd of September last, I instructed you to endeavour to ascertain from General Cass whether the United States' Government would be willing to co-operate with Her Majesty's Government for the suppression of the Slave Trade in Cuba, by establishing a joint system of cruising off the coasts of that island, so that a British cruiser might accompany an American cruizer, and in the event of a slaver being fallen in with furnished with American colours and papers, the American ship should capture her; whilst if she had no colours or papers, she should be lawful prize to the British ship.

I also instructed your Lordship to state to the United States' Government, that if the efforts of the American cruizers for the suppression of the Slave Trade should place at the disposal of the United States' Government a large number of rescued Africans whom it might be inconvenient to send back to Africa, Her Majesty's Government would be willing to receive them in the British West Indian Colonies, where they would find a free asylum and remunerative employment.

I have to instruct you to repeat these proposals to the present Administration. They appear to Her Majesty's Government to be well worthy of the consideration of the Cabinet of Washington, as affording practical means of dealing effectually with the Slave Trade, without interfering with the immunity of the United States' flag.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 206.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 3, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a despatch from Mr. Foote, Her Majesty's Consul at Lagos,* inclosing copy of a letter addressed to him by the Alake of Abbeokuta denying that he signed any Treaty with Messrs. Campbell and Delany, as has been asserted by them, granting to coloured American emigrants the whole of the unoccupied Egba lands, as far as they extend, for colonization purposes.

I also transmit copies of a letter and its inclosures from the African Aid Society containing explanations in regard to this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 207.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, May 25, 1860.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copies of a letter and its inclosures from Commodore Edmonstone,† which have been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty, reporting upon the state of the Slave Trade upon the African Coast between the 1st of July and 31st December, 1860.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 208.

Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 19, 1861.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from Commander Douglas, of Her Majesty's ship "Espoir,"‡ reporting the circumstances under which he boarded the brigantine "African," under American colours, for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 209.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 3, 1861.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, the accompanying copy of a letter from Commodore Edmonstone,§ which has been communicated to me by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances under which he directed the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Arrogant," under his command to board the brigantine "African," under American colours, for the purpose of ascertaining her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 210.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of two despatches and of their inclosures from Sir Henry Huntley, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner in the Mixed Commission Court at Loanda,|| relating to the cordial co-operation of the British and American cruizers in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the African coast.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

* No. 6.

§ Ibid., No. 81:

† Class A, No. 72:

‡ Ibid., No. 79.

|| Ibid., Nos: 36 and 37.

No. 211.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 16, 1861.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, a copy of a letter from Commander Douglas, of Her Majesty's ship "Espoir,"* which has been communicated to me by the Secretary to the Admiralty, reporting the circumstances attending the boarding of the American brig "African," of New York, on the evening of the 2nd of July last.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

No. 212.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, August 17, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship herewith a copy of a note which I have received from Mr. Adams, the United States' Minister at this Court, conveying the thanks of the President to Her Majesty's Government, and to Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "Prometheus," for the assistance rendered by that officer in the month of May last to Captain Nicholas, of the United States' ship of war "Constellation," which enabled that officer to capture the American brigantine "Triton," equipped for the Slave Trade.

The particulars of this capture, and the assistance rendered on the occasion by the Commander of the "Prometheus," were reported by Sir Henry Huntley, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda, in his despatches of the 7th and 10th of August last, copies of which were transmitted to your Lordship in my despatch of the 8th instant. You will have seen also by these despatches that Captain Nicholas, on the other hand, furnished Commander Bedingfeld with the information which resulted in the capture by the "Prometheus" of the Spanish slave-vessel "Jacinta."

I have to instruct you to communicate copies of Sir Henry Huntley's despatches to the United States' Government; and in doing so you will express to Mr. Seward the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learnt not only that British and United States' officers have cordially co-operated for the suppression of the Slave Trade, but that this co-operation is highly appreciated by the President of the United States. You will also request Mr. Seward to be the medium of communicating the thanks of Her Majesty's Government to the Commander of the United States' ship of war "Constellation" for the information furnished by him to Commander Bedingfeld, of the "Prometheus," which enabled that officer to capture the Spanish slave-vessel "Jacinta."

I am, &c.

(Signed)

RUSSELL.

Inclosure in No. 212.

Mr. Adams to Earl Russell.

My Lord,

Legation of the United States, London, August 6, 1861.

THE Undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, has the honour to inform the Right Honourable Earl Russell, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that on the 21st of May, 1861, the United States' ship "Constellation" discovered the American brig "Triton" at Punta de Lenha, which had been fitted out as a slaver.

Captain Nicholas, of the "Constellation," having no means of communicating with Punta da Lenha, intimated the fact to Captain Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's steamer "Prometheus," who instantly placed his steamer at the disposal of Captain Nicholas, with the offer to tow a boat with as many officers and men as he desired to send. The fourth cutter of the "Constellation" was accordingly manned and towed up the river by the "Prometheus," and the "Triton" was taken possession of.

The President desires to express his high appreciation of the conduct of Captain Bedingfeld, on the occasion referred to. He has also instructed me to convey his thanks to Her Majesty's Government, and through them to Captain Bedingfeld, for his prompt co-operation with Captain Nicholas, by which means the slave-vessel was secured.

The Undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

No. 213.

Lord Lyons to Earl Russell.—(Received September 16.)

My Lord,

Washington, August 31, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a note with which, in obedience to the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, I have transmitted to the United States' Secretary of State copies of Sir Henry Huntley's despatches to your Lordship of the 7th and 10th of June, and of their inclosures, relative to the cordial co-operation of British and United States' Naval Officers on the West Coast of Africa.

I have in the same note requested Mr. Seward to convey to Captain Nicholas, of the United States' ship "Constellation," the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for information given by him to Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "Prometheus."

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 213.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Seward.

Sir,

Washington, August 30, 1861.

I AM directed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to communicate to the Government of the United States the inclosed copies of despatches from Sir Henry Huntley, Her Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda. They give an extremely satisfactory account of the results which have been produced by the cordial co-operation of British and United States' Naval Officers on the West Coast of Africa.

It appears that Captain Nicholas, of the United States' ship "Constellation," furnished Commander Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "Prometheus," with information which led to the capture of the Spanish slave-vessel "Jacinta;" on the other hand, Commander Bedingfeld was so fortunate as to be able to render assistance to Captain Nicholas, which contributed to the seizure of the "Triton," an American brigantine equipped for the Slave Trade.

Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received a note dated the 6th instant, from the United States' Minister at Her Majesty's Court, expressing the President's appreciation of the conduct of Commander Bedingfeld. And his Lordship has desired me to express to you, Sir, the great satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have learned not only that British and United States' officers have cordially co-operated for the suppression of the Slave Trade, but that this co-operation is highly appreciated by the President of the United States.

I am, moreover, instructed to request you to be the medium of communicating to Captain Nicholas the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the information furnished by him to Captain Bedingfeld.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 214.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, September 19, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship, for your information, a copy of a letter, and its inclosures, from Commander Wratislaw to the Secretary to the Admiralty,* reporting his having boarded on the 7th and 14th of July last the American brigantine "African," suspected of being engaged in the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 215.

Lord Lyons to Earl Russell.—(Received September 23.)

My Lord,

Washington, September 9, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose a copy of a note which I have received from Mr. Seward, in reply to my note of the 30th ultimo, expressing the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government at the cordial co-operation of British and United States' officers on the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 215.

Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Washington, September 5, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 30th ultimo, transmitting copies of despatches from Sir Henry Huntley, Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Commissioner at Loanda, relative to the co-operation of the British and American naval forces in the suppression of the Slave Trade on the African Coast, and requesting me to be the medium of communicating to Captain Nicholas, of the United States' ship "Constellation," the thanks of Her Majesty's Government for certain information furnished by him to Captain Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "Prometheus."

In reply, I have the honour to state that I shall take great pleasure in transmitting a copy of your note to the Secretary of the Navy, for communication to Captain Nicholas.

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

No. 216.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 16, 1861.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 10th ultimo, reporting the result of a conversation which you held with Mr. Seward, in which he informed you that measures would be taken by the United States' Government to put a stop to vessels fitting out for the Slave Trade at New York, I have to acquaint your Lordship that I have received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at that port, stating that great zeal and activity is now displayed by the officers of the United States' Government at New York in the apprehension of persons engaged in the Slave Trade, as well as in preventing vessels from fitting out as slavers.

I have to instruct you to express to Mr. Seward the satisfaction with which Her Majesty's Government have received this information.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 217.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, October 19, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith, for your Lordship's information, an extract of a despatch from Sir H. Huntley, Acting British Commissioner at Loanda,* reporting the withdrawal of the United States' squadron on the African Coast, leaving only one corvette, the "Saratoga," under the command of Commander Alfred Taylor.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 218.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1861.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your Lordship's information, copies of a correspondence which has passed between the United States' Minister at this Court and myself, relating to the case of the American ship "*Nightingale*," which vessel was fitted out at Liverpool for the Slave Trade, and to the probability that slave-traders will resort to British ports to equip their vessels, now that they can no longer do so with impunity at New York.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 218.

Mr. Adams to Earl Russell.

My Lord,

Legation of the United States, London, November 6, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Lordships' consideration copies of sundry documents which I have just received from the Secretary of State of the United States, tending to show a change in the mode of prosecuting the Slave Trade, which would seem to call for corresponding measures of repression on the part of Her Majesty's Government, in conjunction with the Government of the United States.

Doubtless, the fact has not escaped your Lordship's attention, that on the accession to office of the President of the United States, his attention was immediately called to the investigation of the truth of the allegations heretofore made, of habitual and extensive violations of the laws prohibiting the fitting out of vessels for the purpose of prosecuting this piratical trade in the ports of the United States, and especially in New York, and to the duty of directing the whole energy of the Government to the prevention of all such unlawful undertakings for the future.

So vigorous and thorough have been the operations of the public officers in this direction, that I am happy to perceive in the report of the Marshal of the District of New York to the Secretary of State, which makes one of the papers now transmitted, the confident expression of his belief that the business which is clearly shown to have been extensively carried on from that point for some time past is now completely broken up, so that the managers of it have found it necessary to devise some plan for changing the theatre of their preliminary preparations.

It will appear from the copies of the affidavits which I now have the honour to place under your Lordship's eye, that one of the new points to which the nefarious conductors of this Trade are directing their attention is the port of Liverpool, within the Kingdom of Great Britain. It is shown that American vessels are now sent to that place, apparently on a legitimate voyage, but that after their arrival and discharge of cargo, they are fitted out by British citizens with all the appurtenances necessary to the conveyance of a cargo of negroes from the coast of Africa to the West Indies. Such seems to have been the course taken with the ship "*Nightingale*," the capture of which, with the negroes on board, by a United States' vessel, has furnished the occasion, for eliciting this information. The object of this application is, then, to solicit your Lordship's attention to this new view of the evil, and such co-operation on the part of Her Majesty's Government in applying a remedy as may tend to an effectual and prompt removal of it.

I trust that it is needless to assure you of the earnest interest taken by the Government of the United States in the prosecution of all judicious measures to put a stop to this, the most crying abuse of the present century; and that although circumstances beyond its control have, to some extent, impaired for a time its ability to labour in the work so far as it would desire outside of the national jurisdiction, yet that no effort shall be relaxed to redeem the reputation of the country from the stigma of any connivance or participation in such odious crime within its borders.

I am, &c.
(Signed) CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Inclosure 2 in No. 218.

*Mr. Murray to Mr. Seward.**United States' Marshal's Office, Southern District of New York,
New York, October 12, 1861.*

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the affidavits of James Williams and William Howard, citizens of the United States, James Henderson, a native of Scotland, and Charles Brown, a native of Germany, who were a portion of the crew of the American ship "*Nightingale*." This vessel, you will perceive, was cleared at this port for Liverpool, and there fitted out for a slave voyage to the Coast of Africa. Information in my possession leads me to believe that it has not been an uncommon thing for vessels to receive their outfit in Liverpool, and sail thence on these infamous ventures. In this case the proofs are direct, and apparently conclusive.

The profits of this iniquitous Traffic are so enormous in proportion to the outlay required, that those engaged in it do not hesitate to run the risks of capture, great as they have been made by the combined action of our own and the British Governments.

No means have been left untried to secure success, and the cunning, business talent, and money which have been employed in this illicit vocation are truly surprising. The principal importers of slaves have agencies established in many countries, and not unfrequently have been in collusion with public officers, and have employed the advantages of their official position to defeat the ends of justice. Until within a few months a very large proportion of the vessels engaged in the African Slave Trade have been fitted out at this port; but the recent vigorous action of our Government, in the arrest of merchants, masters, and seamen, and the seizure and condemnation of vessels, has virtually destroyed the business here. Hence, these people are seeking securer channels, where, being unknown, for a time they may escape detection. I have information that arrangements are being perfected to transfer their operations to Liverpool and other ports, and the interests of humanity and civilization require that the British Government should be advised of this fact, lest a profession which the law of nations has stamped as piracy should unwittingly be permitted to flourish in British ports.

The affidavits herewith submitted implicate certain residents of Liverpool in fitting out the "*Nightingale*" for a slave voyage. As the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will, no doubt, prosecute these parties as soon as these facts are laid before them, the witnesses now in my custody can be retained, subject to the order of the proper authorities, after Captain Bowen and his three mates have been brought to trial. Such a course would effectually prevent the fitting out of other slavers in British ports.

It will be perceived that the slave-traders endeavour to engage crews from among Germans and others ignorant of the English language, whose citizenship does not make them amenable to our Acts of Congress.

Believing that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty is earnestly desirous of co-operating with the United States in the effectual suppression of the African Slave Trade, I have the honour to submit respectfully these facts and suggestions for your consideration.

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) ROBERT MURRAY, *United States' Marshal.*

Inclosure 3 in No. 218.

Deposition of James Williams.

United States of America, Southern District of New York, ss.

JAMES WILLIAMS being duly sworn, deposes and says:—I am twenty-eight years of age, a native of the State of New York, and have followed the sea about thirteen years. I was one of the crew of the ship "*Nightingale*," which was seized by the American sloop-of-war "*Saratoga*," in April last, on the coast of Africa, just after taking on board a cargo of negroes. I shipped on the "*Nightingale*," Francis Bowen, master, as able seaman at New York in September 1860, but was made boatswain before we got to sea, and did boatswain's duty afterwards until we were captured.

The voyage described in the Articles was to Liverpool, thence to such ports in China, Australia, East Indies, or any part of the world, as the Master might direct, and back to a port of discharge in the United States.

The "*Nightingale*," having on board as freight a cargo of grain, the usual quantity of
CLASS B.

ship's store, about 20 casks of bread, and about 135 bundles of shooks, sailed from New York in said month of September, reaching Liverpool in October following. At Liverpool the grain was discharged, and the bread and shooks landed and stored.

On the passage the men were treated by the officers with great harshness, and "worked up," as it is called, for the purpose, as I believe, of causing them to leave the ship; and when we reached Liverpool, the entire crew, with the exception of myself, did leave. The "*Nightingale*" remained at Liverpool about eight weeks, and during this time, with but little attempt at concealment, was fitted out to engage in the Slave Trade.

A cargo suitable for a slave voyage was taken on board, consisting of a great quantity of dry goods, principally cheap calicoes and cotton stuffs, 900 kegs of gunpowder, a lot of old muskets and several swivel guns. A large amount of provisions for the negroes was shipped, 300 boxes of herrings, 14 casks of rice, and 25 barrels of beans. The bread, and shooks for water-casks, which had been landed, were openly re-shipped. A number of other articles peculiar to the outfit of slavers were provided: coppers used for cooking the negroes' food, six casks of hoops used in converting the shooks into water-casks, twelve sheets of iron to protect the vessel from fire when the coppers are in use, a cooper's chest and tools necessary for the cooperage of the water casks, masons' tools, bricks and mortar to make places to set the coppers on.

The usual cabin stores, wines, liquors, preserved fruits, poultry, &c., were taken on board. The crew having left, from the cause I have already mentioned, a new one, of eighteen men, was shipped, of whom but one, William Howard, was an American. The Captain, as I was informed and believed, desired to ship foreigners so as to evade the laws of the United States in case of capture. The shipping-master made especial efforts to engage Dutchmen and others, who could not speak English, and the shipping-master, as I was told by some of the crew, said publicly in sailor boarding-houses that it was all nonsense about the ship's going to China and the East Indies; that she was going to the Coast of Africa for a cargo of "niggers," and the men could make 1,000 dollars a-piece if they would go. And it finally got to be common talk that the ship was preparing for a slave voyage, so that the riggers and the pilot talked about it among the sailors. I spoke to the officers on the subject, but they assured me we were going to China and the East Indies, and my wages were raised to induce me to remain.

After we hauled out in the river, a large portion of the crew wanted to leave the ship; some who had shipped, knowing her destination, concluding they didn't wish to go on a slave voyage, and others, in consequence of what they learned after coming on board. One boy, named John Roberts, managed to get off, saying he wouldn't go slaving, but the officers prevented the others, threatening to shoot any who should attempt to leave, and not allowing boats to come near the ship. When we were ready for sea three Spaniards came on board, who afterwards on the coast acted as captain, mate, and supercargo; and a Frenchman, Onesimé Chauvin, who claimed to be, and was considered by the crew, as the owner of the ship.

We cleared in the usual manner and sailed for the coast, without having been molested or interfered with by the local authorities. The "*Nightingale*" proceeded to St. Thomas, and thence up the Congo river to Punta da Lenha, where the cargo was discharged at a regular slave factory. We remained here about three months, and at the end of this time the ship was put in readiness to receive the negroes; the various articles taken on board at Liverpool being used for the purposes already mentioned.

When everything was ready we came down the Congo, went to Cabenda Bay, about thirty miles from the mouth of the river, and on the night of the 20th April, 1861, took aboard 940 negroes, and were captured by the American sloop of war "*Saratoga*," the same night.

(Signed) JAMES WILLIAMS.

Sworn before me, this 12th day of October, 1861.

(Signed) J. BUCHANAN HENRY, *United States' Commissioner.*

Inclosure 4 in No. 218.

Deposition of William Howard.

Southern District of New York, ss.

WILLIAM HOWARD, being duly sworn, deposes and says:—I am a native of the State of Massachusetts, 18 years of age, and have followed the sea about six years. I shipped as ordinary seaman on the American ship "*Nightingale*" in October 1860. I have heard the foregoing affidavit of James Williams read, and have personal knowledge

of the facts therein stated in reference to the fitting out of the "*Nightingale*" at Liverpool and her subsequent voyage, and that the said affidavit is in those respects true.

(Signed) WILLIAM HOWARD.

Sworn to before me, this 12th day of October, 1861.

(Signed) J. BUCHANAN HENRY, *United States' Commissioner.*

Inclosure 5 in No. 218.

Deposition of James Henderson.

Southern District of New York, ss.

James Henderson, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am a native of Scotland, 16 years of age, and have followed the sea three years. I joined the American ship "*Nightingale*" at Liverpool in the fall of 1860, after the ship was ready for sea. I have heard the foregoing affidavit of James Williams read. I was one of those mentioned in said affidavit who thought the vessel was going on a slave voyage, and therefore wished to leave, and was prevented by the officers. One of the riggers told me the ship was going a "black-birding," and I was convinced that such was the case as soon as I saw the cargo. I talked with others of the crew about it, and we tried to leave the ship, but were prevented as before mentioned.

(Signed) JAMES ^{his} ✕ HENDERSON.
mark.

Sworn to before me, this 12th day of October, 1861.

(Signed) J. BUCHANAN HENRY, *United States' Commissioner.*

Inclosure 6 in No. 218.

Deposition of Carl Brown.

Southern District of New York, ss.

Charles Brown, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am a native of Germany 20 years of age, and have followed the sea five years. I joined the American ship "*Nightingale*" at Liverpool in the fall of 1860. I have heard the foregoing affidavit of James Williams read. I was one of those mentioned in said affidavit who attempted to leave the ship and were prevented by the officers.

(Signed) CARL BROWN.

Sworn to before me, this 12th day of October, 1861.

(Signed) J. BUCHANAN HENRY, *United States' Commissioner.*

Inclosure 7 in No. 218.

Earl Russell to Mr. Adams.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1861.

I HAVE read with great interest your letter of the 6th instant relating to the Slave Trade.

I am happy to hear that the proceedings taken by the United States' Government to put an end to slave-trading enterprizes in New York have been successful.

It is not surprising that the slave-traders when driven from one haunt should seek others.

I shall direct the closest investigations into this nefarious transaction at Liverpool, and all the powers of the law shall be put in motion with a view to prosecute to conviction the perpetrators of this odious crime.

Her Majesty's Government will always be ready to co-operate with that of the United States in the prosecution of judicious measures, with a view to the extirpation of this odious Traffic, the remains of which inflict so large a portion of calamity on Africa, and are a disgrace to the age.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 219.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 15, 1861.

I INCLOSE, for your Lordship's information, copies of a correspondence between the Commander of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto" and Flag Officer Inman, commanding the United States' naval forces on the African Coast, which has been communicated to me by the Board of Admiralty,* showing the mutual good feeling which has prevailed between the two squadrons engaged in the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 220.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 16, 1861.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 15th instant, I have to instruct your Lordship to communicate copies of the correspondence between Commander Raby, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto," and Flag Officer Inman, of the United States' Navy, which accompanied that despatch, to Mr. Seward, the United States' Secretary of State.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

No. 221.

Lord Lyons to Earl Russell.—(Received December 16.)

My Lord,

Washington, December 2, 1861.

IN a despatch dated the 11th instant, Mr. Consul Archibald reported to your Lordship that Nathaniel Gordon, master of the slaver "Erie," had been convicted in the United States' District Court of New York of forcibly detaining and confining negroes on board that vessel, with intent to make them slaves. This crime is pronounced by United States' law to be piracy. Sentence of death was passed upon the prisoner on the 30th ultimo.

The day appointed for the execution is the 7th of February next. The President of the United States has the power of remitting or commuting the penalty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 222.

Earl Russell to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 19, 1861.

I TRANSMIT to your Lordship, for your information, copies of a letter and its inclosures from Commodore Edmonstone,† reporting his having boarded, by the boats of Her Majesty's ship "Arrogant," the American barque "J. J. Cobb," to verify her nationality.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

* Class A, Inclosures in No. 91.

† Ibid., No. 94.

No. 223.

Lord Lyons to Earl Russell.—(Received December 25.)

My Lord,

Washington, December 6, 1861.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatches of the 15th and of the 16th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of a note in which I have, in obedience to your Lordship's orders, communicated to Mr. Seward copies of a correspondence between Commander Raby and Flag Officer Inman, showing the good feeling which has existed between the British and American squadrons on the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 223.

Lord Lyons to Mr. Seward.

Sir,

Washington, November 30, 1861.

BEING directed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to communicate to you a correspondence between Commander Raby, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto," and Flag-Officer Inman, of the United States' navy, I have the honour to transmit copies of it to you herewith.

It illustrates in a very gratifying manner the mutual good feeling which has prevailed between the squadrons employed by our respective Governments for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

No. 224.

Lord Lyons to Earl Russell.—(Received December 26.)

My Lord,

Washington, December 13, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship a copy of a note which I have received from Mr. Seward, acknowledging the receipt of the note which I addressed to him by your Lordship's orders, and a copy of which I transmitted in my despatch of the 6th instant, communicating copies of a correspondence between Commander Raby and Flag-Officer Inman, showing the good feeling which exists between the British and American squadrons on the coast of Africa.

I have, &c.
(Signed) LYONS.

Inclosure in No. 224.

Mr. Seward to Lord Lyons.

My Lord,

Department of State, Washington, December 10, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 30th ultimo, communicating a correspondence between Commander Raby, of Her Majesty's ship "Alecto," and Flag-Officer Inman, of the United States' ship "Constellation," illustrating the mutual good feeling which has prevailed between the squadrons employed by the United States and Great Britain for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and to state, in reply, that I have furnished the Secretary of the Navy with a copy of that correspondence for the information of his Department.

I have, &c.
(Signed) WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

UNITED STATES. (*Consular*)—*Boston.*

No. 225.

Consul Lousada to Lord J. Russell.—(*Received August 9.*)

My Lord,

Boston, July 25, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, copied from the Boston papers, a list of slavers on their way homeward with cargoes.

The article (of which this is an extract) says: "We have received reliable information from the African squadron to the effect that the following vessels have shipped cargoes of negroes on board on the coast, and sailed with them for the Western hemisphere:—

"The '*Fairie*,' said to be of New York.

"The '*Alearina*,' said to be owned by Crocker and Co., New York.

"The '*Storm King*' (an old name in the trade).

"The brig '*Martha Post*,' of Laybrook, Connecticut, said to be owned by Post and others.

"The '*Storm King*' is said to have succeeded in getting on board one of the most profitable cargoes of negroes ever shipped from the Congo river. She was neither boarded by a man-of-war, nor overhauled in any way.

"The '*Falmouth*' was reported to be getting a pretty large load of negroes."

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS LOUSADA.

No. 226.

Consul Lousada to Earl Russell.—(*Received November 4.*)

My Lord,

Boston, October 14, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that the barque "*Reindeer*," which was seized at Newport, charged with fitting out as a slaver, was, with her cargo, to-day condemned by the United States' District Court at Providence, Rhode Island.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS LOUSADA.

No. 227.

Consul Lousada to Earl Russell.—(*Received December 16.*)

My Lord,

Boston, December 2, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report that Captain Samuel P. Skinner has been tried at New Bedford, Massachusetts, for fitting out a ship with intent to go on a slave-voyage, and having been found guilty, has been sentenced to five years of the State prison.

This is, I believe, the first conviction and punishment for "the intent only," and coupling this fact with the sentence of death on Captain Gordon, of the "*Erie*," for having been taken with a cargo of slaves on board, which sentence is probably to be carried into effect, it would seem that the United States' Government are determined to energetically repress this horrible Traffic.

There is no doubt but that this sentence on Captain Skinner will deter many who have hitherto enjoyed impunity from repeating their ventures.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS LOUSADA.

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

No. 228.

Consul Bunch to Lord J. Russell.—(Received January 22.)

(Extract.)

Charleston, January 1, 1861.

IN my despatch of the 22nd ultimo, I had the honour to acquaint your Lordship that the brig "*Bonita*," which had been captured on the Coast of Africa by the United States' frigate "*San Jacinto*," had arrived here in charge of Lieutenant Foster, of the United States' Navy, and a prize crew. I remarked, further, that the "*Bonita*" was bound to Norfolk, in Virginia, but was driven into this port by stress of weather, and that she had on board the supposed master of the brig, by name Joseph Stackpole.

Upon the arrival of the "*Bonita*," Lieutenant Foster requested instructions from Washington for his guidance; but before they reached him, a writ of *habeas corpus* had been procured, requiring him to show cause why he detained Stackpole in custody. There being no Court of the United States in South Carolina, owing to recent political events, the writ was returned before the Recorder of the city, who very properly refused to discharge the prisoner; first, because the capture was a legal one by the law of the United States; secondly, because Stackpole is a citizen of the United States, and, as such, amenable to its Slave Trade enactments; and, thirdly, because the "*Bonita*" put in here in stress of weather, and was entitled by the courtesy of nations to resume her voyage without being interfered with. He, therefore, remanded Stackpole into the custody of Lieutenant Foster, and they left the Court together.

It appears, however, that on their way to the vessel, Stackpole was, as it is alleged, rescued by a gang of men in the streets of Charleston. That he escaped from Lieutenant Foster is certain, but very grave suspicions are entertained that the whole affair was pre-arranged.

No. 229.

Consul Bunch to Lord J. Russell.—(Received March 25.)

My Lord,

Charleston, March 8, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship two copies of an Act of the Southern Congress, entitled "a Bill in relation to the Slave Trade, and to punish persons offending therein."

This Act, which seems to be of a sufficiently stringent character, differs principally from the legislation of the United States on the same subject, in abolishing the punishment of death for slave-trading, and substituting lengthened terms of imprisonment and heavy fines. It also provides that "negroes, coolies, mulattoes, or other persons of colour" who may be found on board of any vessel captured for violating this Act, shall, in certain cases, be sold at public auction for the benefit of the Confederate States and of the informer.

The new Act follows the course of the United States' Law, in throwing the burden of proof upon the possessor in the case of a newly imported African, &c., who shall be found within the territory of the Confederate States.

It has often been alleged that the capital punishment, by which alone the offence of slave-trading could be punished under the legislation of the United States, acted with the juries as a bar to the possibility of a conviction. This difficulty, if it ever existed, has

now been removed, as has the stigma of "piracy" attached to the Traffic, which was supposed to offend the susceptibilities of the Southern people.

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

Inclosure in No. 229.

A Bill in relation to the Slave Trade, and to punish persons offending therein.

Section 1. THE Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, that no person shall directly or indirectly import, or bring in any manner whatsoever, into the Confederate States, or the territories thereof, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country (other than the slave-holding States of the United States of America), nor from the sea, any negro, mulatto, coolie, or person of colour, with intent to hold, sell, or dispose of any such negro, mulatto, or other person of colour, as a slave, or to be held to service or labour for any length of time whatever. And any ship, vessel, or other water craft, employed in any importation as aforesaid, shall be liable to seizure, prosecution, and forfeiture, in any district in which she may be found; one half thereof, after the payment of all expenses, to the use of the Confederate States, and the other half to the use of him or them who shall prosecute the same to effect.

Sect. 2. No citizen of the Confederate States, or any other person or persons, shall, for himself or other persons, either as master, factor, or owner, build, fit, equip, load, or otherwise prepare any ship or vessel, in any port or place within the jurisdiction of the Confederate States, nor cause any such ship or vessel to sail from any port or place whatsoever within the jurisdiction of the same, for the purpose of procuring any negro, mulatto, coolie, or person of colour, from any foreign kingdom, place, or country (except as aforesaid), to be transported to any port or place whatsoever to be held, sold, or otherwise disposed of as a slave, or to be held to service or labour. And if any ship or vessel shall be so built, fitted out, equipped, laden, or otherwise prepared for the purpose aforesaid, every such ship or vessel, her tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading, shall be forfeited; one moiety, after the payment of all expenses, to the use of the Confederate States, and the other to the use of such person as shall sue for said forfeiture, and prosecute the same to effect in any Court of the Confederate States.

Sect. 3. Any person violating the first section of this Act, or any provisions thereof, or aiding or abetting others in the violation thereof, on conviction thereof shall be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary, or common jail if there be no penitentiary, of the State where the conviction may be had, where by the laws of the State such penitentiary or jail may be used for that purpose, and if not, in such other place as may be provided by law, for a term not less than ten nor longer than twenty years; and shall, moreover, be fined at the discretion of the Court, not less than one thousand nor more than five thousand dollars. And if any person within the Confederate States shall knowingly sell, purchase, receive, conceal, remove, or aid and assist in concealing or removing, any mulatto, coolie, or person of colour, so illegally imported as aforesaid, such person shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by a fine not less than one thousand dollars, and not exceeding five thousand dollars. For all offences under this Act, each negro, mulatto, or person of colour illegally imported or sold, purchased, received, or removed knowingly as aforesaid, shall be held and considered as a separate offence.

Sect. 4. Every ship, vessel, boat, or other water craft, on which such negro, mulatto, coolie, or other person of colour, shall have been taken on board, received or transported as aforesaid, her tackle, apparel, furniture, and lading, shall be forfeited—one moiety to the Confederate States, and the other to the informer; and all negroes, mulattoes, coolies, or other persons of colour, so illegally imported, as aforesaid, shall be arrested and held by the officers of the Confederate States, to be disposed of as hereinafter directed.

Sect. 5. Every person violating the provisions, or any of them, of section 2 of this Act, shall be guilty of a high misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be punished by imprisonment, as before provided, not exceeding five years, and a fine not less than one thousand, nor more than five thousand dollars.

Sect. 6. Every negro illegally imported as aforesaid into the Confederate States, shall be arrested by the Marshal or his Deputies, or any officer of the said States charged in any manner with the execution of this Act, and shall be safely kept, subject to the disposition hereinafter provided. And the said officer shall immediately notify the President of the Confederacy of such arrest and confinement. The President shall, as soon as

possible, communicate with the Governor of the State whence the vessel in which such negroes were imported cleared, if the same be one of the United States of America, and shall offer to deliver such negroes to the said State, on receiving a guarantee from such State that the said negroes shall enjoy the rights and privileges of freemen in such State, or in any other State of the United States, or that said negroes shall be transported to Africa, and there placed at liberty, free of expense to this Government. If such proposition be rejected, or if the contingency specified above shall not have occurred, the President shall receive any proposition which may be made by any responsible persons or society, who will furnish satisfactory guarantee to the President that such negroes will be transported to Africa, and there placed at liberty, free of expense to this Government; and if no such proposition shall be made within a reasonable time, the President shall cause said negroes to be sold at public outcry to the highest bidder in any one of the States where such sale shall not be inconsistent with the laws thereof, under such regulations as he may prescribe; the proceeds of which sale, after paying all the expenses incurred by the Government in the capture, detention, and sale of such negroes, and in the prosecution of the offenders, shall be paid, one-half to the informer (if he be *bond fide* such), and the other half into the Treasury of the Confederate States.

Sect. 7. All proceedings under this Act, and all offences against its provisions, shall be had and prosecuted in the District Court of the Confederate States held in the State in which, or upon the waters adjacent to which, the same may occur, or into whose port the vessel may be carried. And the writs, processes, and other mandates issued from such Courts, shall run and be enforced in any State of this Confederacy, by the Marshal, or his Deputy, of the District which such State shall compose. And in the execution of this Act any Marshal or Deputy may summon as his posse any citizen or citizens of the Confederate States.

Sect. 8. All proceedings for offences committed against the provisions of this Act, or forfeitures incurred by the same, shall be barred unless commenced within five years from the time the same were committed or incurred, or from the time of the discovery of the same.

Sect. 9. No transfers of title to an innocent purchaser, with or without notice, for or without value, shall interfere with such forfeiture, but the same shall be declared at the instance of any informer. On such trials the informer or prosecutor shall not be required to allege or prove the name of master, owner, or consignee, nor the person from whom the negro was purchased, but shall only be required to satisfy the jury that such negro has been illegally imported. And on all such trials the person having such negro in possession shall be compelled to produce such negro in open Court for the personal inspection of the jury. On failure to comply with the order of the Court for such production, judgment of forfeiture shall go as of course, unless satisfactory excuse for such failure be offered to the Court.

Sect. 10. All other laws on the same subject shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

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

No. 230.

Consul Archibald to Earl Russell.—(Received November 25.)

My Lord,

New York, November 11, 1861.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that the trial of Captain Gordon, late of the slaver "*Erie*," before the United States' Circuit Court, has resulted in his conviction for the crime of piracy; in other words, for forcibly detaining and confining on board the above-mentioned ship, in the Congo river, in the month of August 1860, negroes with the intention of making them slaves. I beg leave to inclose herewith printed copies of Judge Nelson's charge to the Jury, which contains an exposition of the Law of the United States relating to the crime of slave-trading, and a recital of the facts proved upon the trial of Gordon.

On the accession to power of the present Administration a vigilance and energy on the part of the Federal officers charged with the suppression of the Slave Trade, such as has never before been witnessed, began to be exercised at this port to good purpose, inasmuch as several intended slave-trading expeditions from New York and New Bedford have been prevented or broken up. But since the enactment by Congress of Laws declaring the Slave Trade to be piracy, punishable with death, this is, I believe, the first instance of a conviction of any offender in the Courts of this country. It is to no purpose to inquire how far the conviction of Gordon is due to the change of public sentiment in reference to slave-trading, caused by the existing political disturbances in this country. It is at all events satisfactory that a Law, the extreme penalty of which has even been held up as a proof of the sincerity of the United States' Government and people in their efforts to suppress the Slave Trade, has at last been vindicated in a case which, although clearly proved, is not more deserving of punishment than many preceding ones in which it seemed impossible to obtain a conviction.

Every effort will doubtless be made to prevent the sentence of death being carried into execution in this case, and probably with success. Whatever may be the result in this respect, the conviction of Captain Gordon cannot fail to have a very salutary effect, and will, in my judgment, greatly diminish the activity with which the Slave Trade has been carried on hitherto from this country. But while it may render New York a less convenient place for the inception of slave-trading expeditions, great care will be necessary to prevent the transfer of this unlawful enterprise to other and even to British ports.

I have, &c.
(Signed) E. M. ARCHIBALD.

Inclosure in No. 230.

Judge Nelson's Charge in the Case of Captain Gordon.

United States' Circuit Court, November 8, 1861.

THE case having been summed up by Counsel on both sides, Judge Nelson proceeded to charge the jury as follows:—

"Gentlemen of the jury,—We have been exceedingly anxious to submit this case to you before the adjournment, inasmuch as we have felt it a duty to require that you should be kept together during the trial. So much time has been consumed by the learned Counsel that we shall feel under the necessity of being very brief, and shall satisfy our duty in the case by calling your attention from the wide range of discussion which you have heard from

the learned Counsel on either side to the real issues involved in the case, and upon which you should confine your deliberations in determining upon the guilt or innocence of the prisoner.

“Now, gentlemen, the prisoner is indicted under the 5th section of the Act of 1820, which is, ‘That if any citizen of the United States, being of the ship’s company of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the Slave Trade, or if any person whatever being of the ship’s company of any ship owned wholly or in part, or navigated for or in behalf of any citizen of the United States, shall forcibly confine or detain, or aid and assist in confining or detaining, on board such vessel any negro or mulatto, with intent to make him a slave, such person shall be adjudged a pirate, and on conviction shall suffer death.’

“This is the law under which the prisoner has been indicted, and under which he must be convicted, if at all; and the various statutes which have been commented upon, and many of which have been read in your hearing, and the law which has been read from the books, have no material bearing upon the merits of the case, and may as well be laid aside and forgotten by the jury. It will be sufficient for an intelligent discharge of duty to look exclusively to this provision of the law.

“There are two counts in the indictment to which we shall call your attention, and to which the observations that we shall make on the law of the case will be confined. The first count is in substance that the prisoner, one of the ship’s company of the ship ‘*Erie*,’ owned in whole or in part by American citizens in the River Congo, did piratically, feloniously, and forcibly confine and detain 800 negroes on board, with intent to make them slaves.

“And the third count is, that the prisoner, a citizen of the United States, one of the ship’s company of the ship ‘*Erie*,’ a foreign vessel engaged in the Slave Trade in the River Congo, did piratically and forcibly confine and detain 800 negroes on board such vessel, with intent to make them slaves.

“Under the statute which we have read to you, in order to make out the offence against the prisoner, it is necessary on the part of the Government to prove either that he is a citizen of the United States, or that the vessel on which he served, with which he was engaged in the Slave Trade, belonged in whole or in part to citizens of the United States. If the prisoner is a citizen of the United States, then the crime charged against him of forcibly detaining these negroes may be made out if he was on board of a foreign vessel; but if he was not a citizen of the United States, but a foreigner, then in order to charge him with the crime it must appear that it was committed upon an American vessel, or at least a vessel owned in whole or in part by citizens of the United States.

“These two questions become therefore, material: first, was the prisoner at the bar a citizen? Now proof is given by two witnesses that they knew both his father and his mother in Portland, Maine, before their marriage; they were both residents of that place; the witnesses also knew them after their marriage in the same place, and knew the prisoner, the fruit of that marriage, when two or three years old. The question is, upon this testimony, Was the prisoner a native-born citizen, born in Portland or in the United States? It has been argued by the Counsel for the prisoner that there is some evidence here that the mother after the marriage was in the habit of going with her husband, who was a sea-captain, upon foreign voyages; and it is insisted that upon this state of facts the prisoner may have been born abroad. Perhaps the presumption being upon the evidence that he was born in Portland—a *prima facie* case being made out that he was born there—the burden would rest upon him to show that he was born abroad; but we take it to be settled law that if he was born in a foreign country, the father and mother being American citizens, not having the design of removing to a foreign country, but touching at foreign countries in the course of the voyages which the father made as a sea-captain, if the father and mother were American citizens, the child, though born abroad, would still be regarded as an American citizen.

“Next, gentlemen, as to the character of the vessel. Was she an American vessel, or owned in whole or in part by American citizens? It appears that she was built in the United States, and belonged to American citizens; that she made a voyage from England to Havana, and after her arrival at Havana it is insisted that she was sold and transferred by those American citizens. We have the account from Mr. Post, who owned three-fourths of her at the time of the sale. He states that though he was not present at the time of sale, yet one of the other part-owners, Mr. Knudsen, was with the vessel as its master, and he received from Havana, in March 1860, the proceeds of the sale, and he had no doubt she had been sold and transferred. And perhaps on this evidence it would be difficult to deny that a sale and transfer was made of this vessel out of those American owners, so far at least as Mr. Post is concerned, and he says also that he accounted with the other part-owners for their share of the price. The difficulty in this part of the case is this:

That it is not enough to show that the title to this vessel was conveyed by these American owners in March 1860. That is not sufficient, because before any change can be made of the character of a vessel, after it has been proved that she belonged to American owners, it must appear that the transfer was made to a foreigner. To whom this vessel was transferred we have no evidence in the case. But, as I before said to you, gentlemen, it is not necessary upon this branch of the case that the prisoner should be a citizen, and also that the vessel should be an American vessel. It is sufficient if either of these facts exist, for the commission of the crime charged in the indictment.

"This brings us, gentlemen, to the merits of the case—and the question is, is the prisoner guilty or not of forcibly confining or detaining the negroes on board of this vessel in the Congo river, with the intent of making them slaves? This is the issue in the case, so far as the real merits are involved. Now, you have the evidence, on the part of the Government, of Martin, Green, Alexander, and Hetelberg, four seamen on board of the 'Erie,' who shipped in Havana in April 1860, a short time after this alleged sale and transfer. They have detailed to you the circumstances of their employment as seamen, the cargo with which the vessel was laden at that port—some 150 or more hogsheads of liquor, a number of barrels of pork and beef, bags of beans, barrels of bread and rice, some 250 bundles of shooks, with a corresponding number of hoops, for the purpose of being subsequently manufactured into barrels or casks. Now it may be material in this case for you to inquire, in entering upon the consideration of this issue, whether this was a *bond fide* cargo for lawful trade and commerce, or whether it was a cargo fitted out and intended to be used in the Slave Trade.

"The vessel was of some 500 tons. If this was a fitting out for the purpose of engaging in the Slave Trade, and the prisoner at the bar had a knowledge of this intended service of the vessel, then that fact would accompany him to the Congo River, and would have its weight and its influence upon your minds as to the connexion that he had with the transaction that occurred there in receiving these negroes on board and detaining them. It may undoubtedly be assumed, without any injustice, as a matter of law, the prisoner being the master of the vessel at the port of Havana and for her voyage to the Congo River, that if this cargo was fitted out for that purpose, if it was a cargo not only proper for that purpose but intended for that purpose, he, as master, who had the control and charge of the vessel in procuring the cargo, in stowing it, and in shipping the seamen, is chargeable with a knowledge of these facts. Now, these four witnesses, whom you have seen on the stand, have detailed the progress of the voyage from Havana to the Congo, and the taking of these negroes on board, and starting from the river on the return voyage to Havana. Their testimony has been so frequently referred to by Counsel, and commented upon by them, that I shall not take up your time in going over it. The four concur in the account which they have given of the voyage. They state that after they had been out some thirty days, and after having discovered the provisions and freight on board, a suspicion arose in the minds of the sailors that the vessel might be intended for the Slave Trade, and that they disclosed this suspicion to the captain, assigning to him the reason and grounds of it. The captain, however, disclaimed any such purpose, rebuked the suspicion, and ordered them forward. They all concur in stating that after the vessel arrived in the Congo River, and while the persons connected with her and those who furnished the cargo of negroes were engaged in putting the negroes on board, the captain continued in command of her, so far as they saw. That he exercised the same control over the vessel, her management, and the putting on board of these negroes, as he had previously exercised in the course of the voyage. They also state that after the negroes were put on board, they were called aft and were applied to for the purpose of ascertaining whether they would continue to serve as seamen on the return voyage, and were told that if they would, they should be paid a dollar a head for every negro landed at Cuba. They also state, especially some of them, that the prisoner gave a direction for hoisting the anchor, and directed the course of the vessel when she came out of the river.

"These are the material facts which have been testified to by the witnesses for the prosecution. On the part of the prisoner you have the testimony of the first and second mates, who, in all these respects, with, perhaps, one exception, contradict these four witnesses. They state that after the arrival of the vessel and the discharge of the cargo, the prisoner no longer exercised any control over the management of the vessel, and that the control of the vessel and her navigation were passed over to the hands of another person, first to Mr. Hill, who died, and afterwards to Mr. Manuel, whom they regarded as the captain of the vessel, and that subsequently the prisoner had no management or control over her. One of them, the mate I think, states that he was present when the seamen were applied to, with the view of ascertaining whether they would serve on the return voyage, and his statement differs from the account given by the seamen in this:

He says that the prisoner applied to the seamen on behalf of the owners of the vessel, and that as agent, or on behalf of the owners, holding a letter in his hand at the time, which purported to be an authority, he made this offer to them for the purpose of engaging them. This is the only discrepancy, so far as regards that fact, testified to by the seamen.

“Now, as I before stated to you, if the prisoner at the bar, as master of this vessel at Havana, had a knowledge that she was fitted out, equipped and provisioned on a voyage to the Congo River, on the Coast of Africa, for the purpose of engaging in the Slave Trade, the fact of his entering upon that voyage, conducting the vessel to a foreign coast, remaining in her, coming back with her, or having started to come back with her before she was captured, this previous knowledge of the prisoner, and his engagement to navigate the vessel for that purpose, will have its influence as to the purpose for which he was found upon the vessel in the Congo River at the time the negroes were put on board; and it is entitled to whatever weight you may think it deserves in aiding or supporting the testimony of the four seamen, and will raise the question for your consideration and decision, whether or not the transfer was not a part of the original plan of carrying out this engagement of the vessel in the Slave Trade, and as such colourable, and not *bonâ fide*. This, however, is a question for your consideration and determination.

“Now we have said that in order to sustain the charge against the prisoner upon this crime, it must appear that these negroes were forcibly confined and detained on board that vessel, for the purpose of making them slaves—for the purpose of bringing them to Cuba or elsewhere to make them slaves. This word ‘forcibly,’ which is a material element in the crime charged, does not mean physical or manual force. Even in the crime of robbery, in which force is a peculiar element of the crime, it being the taking violently the property of another from his person, need not be accompanied with, or consist of, actual force; any conduct on the part of the offender, the robber, putting the person deprived of his goods in bodily fear and terror, is equivalent to actual force. And so in this case. These negroes were collected at the place where they were put on board in barracoons, and were there under restraint by these persons, who furnished them at the ship’s side. They were in bondage at the time, and under the control of these persons, who transferred them to the vessel. They came upon the deck of the vessel in that condition, and it would be strange indeed if it was made necessary by the law that it should be shown that they made personal, physical resistance at the time against being put on board and detained on board under all these circumstances. It is sufficient that they were under moral restraint and fear; their wills controlled by this superior power exercised over their minds and bodies; and any person participating in that forcible detention, that sort of detention, is a principal participating in the guilt of the offence.

“Then, as to the intent of making them slaves. This, undoubtedly, is a question of fact for the jury. You must find it, but you can find it as an inference from the surrounding circumstances attending their being put on board and forcibly detained on board. If any other purpose, any lawful purpose, had been shown to you by the evidence in the case, undoubtedly it would have been pertinent and satisfactory for the purpose of rebutting such a presumption of intent. But in the absence of any such evidence, it is for you, gentlemen, to say whether the inference is warranted by the testimony.

“Gentlemen, I think I am through with all the observations that I deem it advisable to submit to you. I will call back your minds to the material question, so that you may look into the case with intelligence, and comprehend the real issue involved in the case, and that is, were these negroes that were put on board the ‘*Erie*,’ in the Congo River, in August 1860, forcibly detained or confined with the intention of making them slaves, and did the prisoner, on board of that vessel at the time, participate in that confinement and detention? If he did, then he is guilty of this offence, under the statute. If he did not, then he is innocent.

“The jury, after a short absence, returned a verdict of guilty.”
