

# PAPERS

RELATING TO

## FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

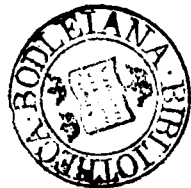
ACCOMPANYING THE

### ANNUAL MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

TO THE

FIRST SESSION THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

PART I.



WASHINGTON:  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1866.

227 841

of the movements actually initiated by me soon after the date of your latest despatches received here, I shall await the communication of your impressions respecting them before writing any more.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

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*Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.*

No. 1509.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

*Washington, August 12, 1865.*

SIR: The Secretary of the Navy has communicated to this department a despatch of the 24th ultimo. addressed to him by Rear-Admiral Goldsborough, from Flushing, which is accompanied by a copy of a letter addressed to him by you, which appears to be in answer to one from the admiral, in which he asked whether the British government still adhered to the application of the twenty-four-hour rule to the departure of our vessels being found with them at the time of their arrival. Admiral Goldsborough asks whether, under the circumstances set forth in your letter, he is still to avoid the ports of England, and still decline to exchange courtesies and ceremonies with her naval and other authorities. To this inquiry this department has, under the instructions of the President, requested Mr. Welles to reply in the affirmative.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

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*Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.*

No. 1512.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

*Washington, August 14, 1865.*

SIR: By a despatch of the 5th instant, received from the United States consulate at Havana, this department is informed that from the 28th to the 30th of July last a cargo of four hundred negroes from Africa was landed at La Cochinos, westward of Cienfuegos about fifty miles; that Mr. Bunch, the British consul general at Havana, did not seem to have any knowledge of this circumstance, but promised, however, to call the attention of the captain general to the fact.

You will be pleased to make this statement known to Earl Russell.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

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*Mr. Hunter to Mr. Adams.*

No. 1514.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

*Washington, August 16, 1865.*

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 27th ultimo, No. 1023, transmitting copies of depositions furnished to you by Mr. Morse, relating to the part the steamer City of Richmond took in supplying the Olinde with equipment and crew.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM HUNTER,  
*Acting Secretary.*

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

when the said bark was boarded by armed men from a steamer, and I, with the rest of the crew, was ordered on board said steamer by a person in uniform, who I afterwards learned was Mr. Bullock, an officer of the Confederate States of America; that upon going on board said steamer I learned first, from a boy called James on board, that said steamer was called Shenandoah, and that she sailed from London as Sea King; that I found Sea King on the plate and table-cloth; that I have now with me a knife marked "Sea King," also a fork marked "Sea King," which I brought from said vessel when I left her in the port of Melbourne, on the 29th January, 1865, and which I now produce.

MARY LINGO.

Subscribed and sworn to in duplicate before me this 16th day of February, 1865, as  
[SEAL.] witness my hand and seal of office.

WILLIAM BLANCHARD,

*United States Consul, Melbourne.*

*Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.*

No. 1,036.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*London, September 7, 1865.*

SIR: In accordance with the desire expressed in your despatch No. 1,512, of the 14th August, I addressed a note to Lord Russell, communicating to him the information referred to as received from Havana. A copy is herewith transmitted.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

*Mr. Adams to Earl Russell.*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*London, September 5, 1865.*

MY LORD: I have the honor to inform you that by a despatch of the 5th of August, received by the Secretary of State at Washington from the United States consulate at Havana, it would appear that from the 28th to the 30th of July last, a cargo of four hundred negroes from Africa was landed at La Ensenada de Cochinas, a place about fifty miles to the westward of Cienfuegos. It is also stated that Mr. Bunch, her Majesty's consul general, who did not appear to have been apprised of the fact, on being informed of it, promised to call the attention of the captain general to it.

I am directed by the Secretary of State to make this statement known to your lordship.

I pray your lordship to accept the assurances of the highest consideration, &c.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Right Honorable EARL RUSSELL, &c.

*Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.*

No. 1,037.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*London, September 7, 1865.*

SIR: I transmit herewith copies of the Daily News of the 5th and 6th and the Morning Star of the 5th of September, containing reports of the proceedings of a special meeting of holders of the confederate cotton bonds in London on the 4th, together with comments on the same. I should very much apprehend, from the remarks made on this occasion, that the shrewd originators of the scheme have partially succeeded in escaping loss by entailing it upon very simple and ignorant people.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

The committee are deeply impressed with a sense of the heavy responsibilities which rest upon you at the present crisis; responsibilities so much the heavier, because the circumstances under which they have devolved upon you are unprecedented; but they feel that these will be materially lightened by a strict adherence to those broad principles of justice which underlie all sound government, and which the committee believe you are anxious to bring into practice.

The committee do not consider it their province to dwell upon the complicated political questions which they perceive with regret are being mixed up with the subject of the extension of equal civil rights to the freedman, nor to attempt to define what ought to be the course of individual States in this matter; still less would they assume any authority to suggest what the supreme government might do. They simply exercise, as the friends of the negro race, the privilege to submit their own views as to the just claims of the late slaves to enjoy equality of civil rights, as a result of the emancipation policy of the United States government; and for this purpose it is convenient to assume that the classes formerly held in bondage are virtually all emancipated.

The committee conceive that the first result of this anti-slavery policy should be to place the freedmen in the same position in all the States as other citizens are: that is, equal in every respect before the law; and that they ought not on account of complexional differences to be debarred of any of the rights or privileges whatsoever of citizenship actually enjoyed by other citizens of the States in which slavery lately existed. It is so obvious that any departure from this principle must place the freedmen at disadvantage, directly tending to leave them at the mercy of a ruling class, that it does not seem to the committee necessary to dwell upon the many evils which their exclusion from the full rights of citizenship would entail.

The committee have observed with regret and some apprehension the various attempts that have been made to fix the rate at which the freedmen should hire out their services; in principle, such interference is unwarrantable, being an arbitrary intervention between the laborer and the hirer of labor, to the detriment of the former. A similar policy produced the worst results in the British West India colonies, the effects of which are still lamentably apparent. The committee, however, are somewhat relieved of their anxiety on this subject by the recent action of the Freedmen's Bureau, the ultimate result of which they trust will be to leave the freedmen at perfect liberty to make their own contracts for services, and to dispose of their labor in whatever markets they may find most advantageous.

In conclusion, the committee would express the fervent hope that, relying upon Divine help, you may be sustained in the discharge of the onerous duties of your high office, and that the fullest measure of prosperity may be meted out to the great American people over whom you have been called to govern.

On behalf of the committee:

EDMUND STURGE,  
*Chairman of Committee.*  
L. A. CHAMEROVZOW,  
*Secretary.*

ANDREW JOHNSON,  
*President of the United States of America.*

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*Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.*

No. 1051.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*London, September 21, 1865.*

SIR: In connexion with my despatch No. 1036, of the 7th of September, I now have the honor to transmit a copy of Lord Russell's note of the 15th, acknowledging mine of the 5th relative to the slave trade in Cuba.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

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*Earl Russell to Mr. Adams.*

FOREIGN OFFICE, *September 15, 1865.*

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your note of the 5th instant, stating that the government of the United States has been apprised of the landing of a

cargo of four hundred African negroes, between the 28th and 30th of July last, at La Enseñada de Cochinas, to the westward of Cienfuegos, in the island of Cuba, and that Mr. Bunch, her Majesty's judge at the Havana, intended to call the attention of the captain general to this matter.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

RUSSELL.

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*Mr. Adams to Mr. Seward.*

No. 1052.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*London, September 21, 1865.*

SIR: I now have the honor to transmit to you a copy of my note to Lord Russell, in reply to his of the 30th of August, which I have already mentioned as in preparation. It is longer than I had intended to make it, but I hope it may serve to close the controversy on this side. I beg to observe that nearly all of the historical portion, which most conduced to prolixity, was of his lordship's making.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

HON. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,

*Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.*

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*Mr. Adams to Lord Russell.*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

*London, September 18, 1865.*

MY LORD: I have the honor to receive your note of the 30th of last month in reply to mine of the 20th of May last.

It gives me great satisfaction to be the medium of communicating to my government the very friendly assurances of your lordship; I cannot entertain a doubt that they will be fully appreciated.

In respect to the reference which you have done me the honor to make to me, as having at no time entertained a doubt of the intentions of her Majesty's ministers to maintain amicable relations with my government during the late severe struggle in my country, I am happy to believe that your lordship has not essentially misunderstood my sentiments. At the same time that I cheerfully confirm such declarations as may have been made by me on that subject in the correspondence I have heretofore had the honor to hold with your lordship, I trust I may be permitted to claim, on behalf of my own government, the credit of intentions to the full as amicable. Indeed, without the presence of these elements on both sides, I should have despaired of the possibility of the passage of the two nations in safety through the difficulties presented to them from within as well as from without.

But whilst I am prompt to respond to your lordship in the sense attributed to me, I pray permission to guard myself against an inference that might by possibility be drawn from a portion of your language, prejudicial to my maintenance of the course which my government has seen fit to take in regard to the events which have given rise to the present discussion. Whilst doing the fullest justice to the intentions of her Majesty's ministers, I feel equally bound to preclude the supposition that I have ever been satisfied with the measure in which, on too many occasions, they have contented themselves with carrying these intentions into practice. Inasmuch as the relations between nations, not less than between individuals, must depend upon the mode in which they fulfil their obligations towards each other, rather than upon their motives, the questions which have grown out of the events of the late war appear to lose little of their gravity from any reciprocal disavowal, however complete, of ill-will on the part of the respective governments.

I am happy to concur with your lordship in the opinion that this appears to be a favorable moment for a calm and candid examination of these questions. Were it not for this consideration I should abstain from further discussion and content myself with simply transmitting to my government the conclusion to which her Majesty's ministers have arrived, as communicated to me towards the close of your lordship's note. But entertaining, as I do, a strong impression that in the matter now at issue is involved a question of international

*Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.*

No. 1596.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, November 20, 1865.

SIR: I enclose herewith a copy of a despatch of the 23d of September, received by this department from Mr. Savage, the vice-consul general of the United States at Havana, relative to the reported landing of an expedition of African negroes at Ensenada de Cochinos, and at a place called Gato.

You will be pleased to make known the contents of this paper to her Majesty's government.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., &c., &c., &c., London.

No. 139.]

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Havana, September 23, 1865.

SIR: Your despatch No. 67 was duly received. In reply to that part of it directing me to procure some probable evidence to sustain the representations made in my despatch No. 127, in reference to the reported landing of an expedition of negroes at Ensenada de Cochinos, I have the honor to say, that the report in question having been communicated by me to her Britannic Majesty's consul general, he called the attention of the captain general to the same, by whom a thorough investigation was ordered, the result of which was that the said landing never took place. I have endeavored to obtain from the parties who gave me the information the proof of their assertions, but they merely answer me that they obtained it from others, whom they supposed to know the facts. In the absence of evidence, and after the investigation made by order of the captain general, we must, at least for the present, believe that the report was unfounded.

A small expedition of African negroes was landed a few days since at a place called Gato, adjacent to the districts of San Cristobal and Rinar del Rio, (south side of Cuba,) from a small sloop. It is believed it did not exceed 160 in number, of whom 163 have been captured; the rest must have been run into the woods; but the captain general, whose unceasing efforts to put an end to the nefarious traffic are truly worthy of all praise, is confident that, notwithstanding the difficulty to be met with, owing to the character of that part of the country, (the Cuzco mountains,) they will be found and taken. The associate justice of the superior court (Rellijero de Lama) has proceeded to the spot, for the purpose of initiating the necessary legal proceedings. It is understood that these negroes are tall and strong; of a tribe that has never been brought to the island, as the authorities cannot find any negroes that understand their language. One person has been arrested who is believed to be concerned in the expedition, and orders have issued for the arrest of two others for the same reason.

The captain general has information of other expeditions being under way from Africa, and taken his measures for their capture.

The orders from the supreme government for the suppression of the slave trade, lately received, are very stringent, and General Dulce will carry them out to the letter.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THOMAS SAVAGE,  
Vice-Consul General.

Hon. H. N. CONGAR,  
Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Washington.

*Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.*

No. 1597.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, November 20, 1865.

SIR: I transmit herewith, for the information of her Majesty's government, a copy of a despatch of the 4th instant from our vice-consul general at Havana, relative to an expedition of African negroes recently landed on the coast of Cuba.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Esq., &c., &c., &c.

*Mr. Savage to Mr. Seward.*

No. 146.]

CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
*Havana, November 4, 1865.*

SIR: Information was brought to me confidentially some days since that an expedition of about 600 negroes from Africa had been landed at a place called Malas Aguas, near the sugar plantation San de Azucar, of Don Francisco Marty y Torrens,\* and that this person was the owner of the cargo. The brig Yucatan (about which I wrote to the department months ago) is believed to be the vessel that brought the negroes, (of the *Macua* tribe;) the landing was effected very quietly. I immediately conveyed the information to Mr. Bunch, the British consul general, who had only the day before had a long interview with the captain general, and heard nothing from his excellency upon the subject. As these reports are often circulated, sometimes founded on fact, but almost invariably not reducible to proof, Mr. Bunch and myself concluded to await for further developments before bringing the case to the knowledge of our respective governments, or his addressing any communication to the captain general. Some days after the matter became one of some notoriety, and some correspondence passed between General Dulce and Mr. Bunch, which I have seen. It is very evident that the captain general believes that an expedition was landed somewhere, and had given very strict orders for the capture thereof.

In conclusion I have to state, that I learned last evening that about 400 negroes were found and captured at Consolacion del Sud, by the lieutenant governor of the district. The capture was made twice; the first time they were placed in a pen, from which they were stolen during the night, but they were again discovered and secured.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS SAVAGE,  
*Vice-Consul General.*

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD,  
*Secretary of State, Washington.*

N. B.—An association has been formed under the special sanction and protection of General Dulce, the members of which pledge themselves not to acquire, directly or indirectly, any negro slave known to be a *native* of Africa, and to do all in their power to form or mould public opinion against the African slave trade. One of the most distinguished lawyers of Havana, Doctor Antonio Gonzales de Mendoza, connected by marriage with one of the most wealthy, intelligent, and moral families of the island, has been elected president of the society. The 19th of the present month (the Queen's Patroness Saint's day) has been fixed for the inauguration and other proceedings. Many influential gentlemen have already inscribed their names as members.

With great respect,

THOMAS SAVAGE,  
*Vice-Consul General.*

*Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.*

No 1605.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
*Washington, November 25, 1865.*

SIR: Your despatch of the 10th of November, No. 1082, has been received. It gives us information of the unexpected arrival of the Shenandoah in the port of Liverpool, of an informal conversation which you held with Lord Clarendon on that subject, of your guarded request by note in writing for her delivery to this government, with the cautious suggestions you made in the same note to his lordship concerning the restoration of the spoils found on board the vessel, and the interest which the United States must feel in bringing to condign punishment her officers and crew.

The despatch also brings authentic though unofficial information that the Shenandoah has been delivered to our consul at Liverpool; a copy of the note referred to is appended to your despatch, and also a copy of a vague note written in reply to your note by Lord Clarendon.

I observe that Lord Clarendon, in his reply, promises that in a future communication he will give immediate attention to the points which were made in your before mentioned note. It seems not only becoming upon considerations of

\* A sort of petty king in that part of the island, owing to his immense fishery business.