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DO U T I E N C E S
Accompanying the President's Message to Congress.
(Continued.)

LORD CASTLEREAGH TO MR. RUSSELL.
Foreign Office, Aug. 29

SIR—Although the diplomatic relations between the two governments have been terminated, by a declaration of war on the part of the United States, I have not hesitated, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, and the authority under which you act, to submit to the prince regent the proposition contained in your letter of the 24th inst. for a suspension of hostilities.

From the period at which your instructions must have been issued, it is obvious that this overture was determined upon by the government of the U. States, in ignorance of the order in council of the 23d June last, and as you inform me that you are not at liberty to depart from the conditions set forth in your letter, it only remains for me to acquaint you that the prince regent feels himself under the necessity of declining to accede to the proposition therein contained, as being on various grounds absolutely inadmissible.

As soon as there was reason to apprehend, that Mr. Foster's functions might have ceased in America, and that he might have been obliged to withdraw himself, in consequence of war being declared, from the U. States, before the above mentioned order of the 23d of June, and the instructions consequent thereupon, could have reached him, measures were taken for authorising the British admiral on the American station to propose to the government of the U. States an immediate and reciprocal revocation of all hostile orders with the tender of giving full effect, in the event of hostilities being discontinued, to the provisions of the said order, upon the conditions therein specified.

From the statement you will perceive that the view you have taken of this part of the subject is incorrect; and that in the present state of the relations between the two countries, the operation of the order of the 23d June can only be defeated by a refusal on the part of your government to desist from hostilities, or to comply with the conditions expressed in the said order. Under the circumstances of your having no powers to negotiate, I must decline entering into a detailed discussion of the propositions which you have been directed to bring forward.

I cannot however, refrain on one single point from expressing my surprize; namely, that, as a condition, preliminary even to a suspension of hostilities, the government of the U. States should have thought fit to demand, that the British government should desist from its ancient & accustomed practice of impressing British seamen from the merchant ships of a foreign state, simply on the assurance that a law shall hereafter be passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the public or commercial service of that state.

The British government now, as here before, is ready to receive from the government of the United States, and amicable to discuss, any proposition which proposes to have in view either to check abuse in the exercise of the practice of impressment, or to accomplish by means less liable to vexation the object for which impressment has hitherto been found necessary, but they cannot consent to suspend the exercise of a right which the naval strength of the empire mainly depends, until they are fully convinced that means can be devised, and will be adopted, by which the object to be obtained by the exercise of that right can be effectually secured.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obt. humble servt.
(Signed) CASTLEREAGH.
J. Russell, Esq. &c.

MR. RUSSELL TO LORD CASTLEREAGH.
18 Bentick-st. 1st Sept. 1812.
MY LORD—I have learnt with much regret by your lordship's note, dated the 29th ult. which I did not receive until this morning, that the Prince Regent has thought proper to decline to accede to the proposition for a suspension of hostilities, con-

tained in my note of the 24th of August.

It has been matter of surprize to me that my view with regard to the revocation of the orders in council on the 23d of June last, should have been considered to have been incorrect, when it appears by your lordship's note that the British government itself had deemed it necessary to give powers to the British admiral to stipulate for its full effect, and thereby admitted that a new act was required for that purpose.

It now only remains for me to announce to your lordship that it is my intention to embark immediately at Plymouth, on board the ship Lark, for the United States, and to request that permission may be granted as soon as may be, for the embarkation of my servants, baggage, and the effects of this legation, and that the necessary passports may be furnished for my own and their safe conduct to that destination.

I avail myself of this occasion to apprize your lordship that I am authorized by the government of the United States to leave Reuben Gaunt Beasley, Esq. as its agent for prisoners of war in this country, and to desire that every necessary facility may be offered him in the exercise of that trust by the British government.

I have the honor to be, my lord, your lordship's most obedient humble servant.
(Signed) JONA. RUSSELL.
The right hon. lord viscount Castlereagh.

MR. RUSSELL TO MR. MONROE.
London, Sept. 3, 1812.

SIR—I enclose herein a copy of a note, received yesterday from Lord Castlereagh which will acquaint you that I have obtained my passports to return to the United States, and that Mr. Beasley is permitted to remain here as agent for prisoners of war.

Immediately on demanding my passport I addressed to the consuls a circular of which you will also find a copy enclosed.

The Swiftsure packet sailed on the 31st of last month from Falmouth for America and it is very probable that she takes out instructions, suggested by the overture made here, but there is no reason to believe that they can be of a nature to satisfy the United States.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration, sir, your faithful obedient servant

JONA. RUSSELL.
To the hon. James Bourke, &c.
LORD CASTLEREAGH TO MR. RUSSELL.
Foreign Office, Sept. 2, 1812.

SIR—I have laid before his royal highness the prince regent, your letter of the 1st. inst. in which you announce your intention to embark immediately at Plymouth on board the ship Lark for the United States.

I have already had the honor of forwarding to you an admiralty order for the protection of that ship as a cartel, on her voyage to America, and I herewith enclose to you a passport for the free embarkation of yourself and family, in conformity to your request. The lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury will issue directions to the commissioners of the customs to give every facility to the embarkation of your effects.

If, previous to your departure from England, you can point out to me any particular manner in which I can facilitate your arrangements, I beg that you will command my services.

His royal highness has commanded me to signify to you, for the information of your government, that there will be no difficulty in allowing Mr. R. G. Beasley, as stated in your letter, to reside in this country, as the U. States agent for prisoners of war.

I have the honor to subscribe myself, with great truth and consideration, Sir, your most obt. humble servant.
(Signed) CASTLEREAGH.
J. Russell, Esq.

CORRESPONDENCE
BETWEEN SIR J. BORLASE WARREN AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Sept. 30.

SIR—The departure of Mr. Foster from America, has devolved upon me the charge of making known to you, for the information of the government of the U. States, the sentiments entertained by his royal highness the prince regent upon the existing relations of the two countries.

You will observe from the enclosed copy of an order in council, bearing date the 23d of June, 1812, that the orders in council of the 7th of January, 1807, and the 26th of April, 1800, ceased to exist nearly at the same time, that the govern-

ment of the United States declared war against his majesty.

Immediately on the receipt of this declaration in London, the order in council, of which a copy is herewith enclosed to you, was issued, on the 31st day of July, for the embargo and detention of all American ships.

Under these circumstances, I am commanded to propose to your government the immediate cessation of hostilities between the two countries, and I shall be most happy to be the instrument of bringing about a reconciliation, so interesting & beneficial to America and G. Britain.

I therefore propose to you, that the government of the U. States of America shall instantly recall their letters of marque and reprisal against British ships; together with all orders and instructions for any acts of hostility, whatever against the territories of his majesty or the persons or property of his subjects; with the understanding, that, immediately on my receiving from you an official assurance to that effect, I shall instruct all the officers under my command to desist from corresponding measures of war, against the ships and property of the United States, and, that I shall transmit without delay corresponding intelligence to the several parts of the world where hostilities may have commenced. The British commanders in which will be required to discontinue hostilities from the receipt of such notice.

Should the American government accede to the above proposal for terminating hostilities, I am authorised to arrange with you as to the revocation of the laws which interdict the commerce and ships of war of G. Britain from the harbors and waters of the United States; in default of which revocation within such reasonable periods as may be agreed upon, you will observe by the order of the 23d June the orders in council of January, 1807, and April 1809, are to be revived.

The officer who conveys this letter to the American coast has received my orders to see immediately upon the delivery of this despatch to the competent authority; and I earnestly recommend that no time may be lost in communicating to me the decision of your government, persuaded as I feel that it cannot be of a nature to lead to a speedy termination of the present differences.

The flag of truce which you may charge with your reply will find one of my cruizers at Sandy Hook, ten days after the landing of this despatch, which I have directed to call there with a flag of truce for that purpose.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration,

Sir,
Your most obt. and most faithful Humble servant,
JOHN BORLASE WARREN,
Admiral of the Blue and Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.
MR. MONROE TO SIR J. B. WARREN.
Department of State,
October 27, 1812.

SIR—I have had the consideration of the President.

It appears that you are authorized to propose a cessation of hostilities between the U. States and G. Britain, on the ground of the repeal of the orders in council, and, in case the proposition is acceded to to take measures, in concert with this government to carry it into complete effect on both sides.

You state, also, that you have it in charge in that event, to enter into an arrangement with the government of the United States for the repeal of the laws which interdict the ships of war and the commerce of G. Britain from the harbors and waters of the U. States. And you intimate, that if the proposition is not acceded to, the orders in council (repealed conditionally by that of the 23d of June last) will be revived against the commerce of the United States.

I am instructed to inform you, that it will be very satisfactory to the President to meet the British government in such arrangements as may terminate without delay the hostilities which now exist between the U. States and G. Britain, on conditions honorable to both nations.

At the moment of the declaration of war the President gave a signal proof of the attachments of the U. States to peace. Instructions were given at that early period to the late charge des affairs of the United States at London, to propose to the British government an armistice on conditions which it was presumed would have been satisfactory. It has been seen with regret that the propositions made by Mr. Mon-

roe, particularly in regard to the important interest of impressment, was rejected, and that none was offered, through that channel as a basis on which hostilities might cease.

As your government has authorized you to propose a cessation of hostilities, and is doubtless aware of the important and salutary effect which a satisfactory adjustment of this difference cannot fail to have on the future relations between the two countries I indulge the hope that it has ere this given you full power for the purpose. Experience has sufficiently evinced that no peace can be durable unless this object is provided for. It is presumed, therefore that it is equally the interest of both countries to adjust it at this time.

Without further discussing questions of right the President is desirous to provide a remedy for the evils complained of on both sides. The claim of the British government is to take from the merchant vessels of other countries British subjects. In the practice, the commanders of British ships of war often take from the merchant vessels of the U. States American citizens. If the U. States prohibit the employment of British subjects in their service, and enforce the prohibition by suitable regulations and penalties, the motive for the practice is taken away. It is in this mode that the President is willing to accommodate this important controversy with the British government, and it cannot be conceived on what ground the arrangement can be refused.

A suspension of the practice of impressment pending the armistice, seems to be a necessary consequence. It cannot be presumed, while the parties are engaged in a negotiation to adjust amicably this important difference, that the U. States would admit the right or acquiesce in the practice of the opposite party; or that G. Britain would be unwilling to restrain her cruizers from a practice which would have the strongest tendency to defeat the negotiation. It is presumable that both parties would enter into the negotiation with a sincere desire to give it effect. For this purpose it is necessary that a clear and distinct understanding be first obtained between the two, of the accommodation which each is prepared to make. If the British government is willing to suspend the practice of impressment from American vessels on consideration that the U. States will exclude British seamen from their service, the regulations by which this compromise should be carried into effect would be solely the object of negotiation. The armistice would be of short duration. If the parties agreed, peace would be the result. If the negotiation failed, each would be restored to its former state, and to all its pretensions, by recurring to war.

Lord Castlereagh, in his note to Mr. Russell seems to have supposed, that had the British government accepted the propositions made to it, G. Britain would have suspended immediately the exercise of a right, on the mere assurance of this government that a law would be afterwards passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the service of the U. States, and that G. Britain would have no agency in the regulation to give effect to that proposition. Such an idea was not in the contemplation of this government, nor is to be reasonably inferred from Mr. Russell's note; lest, however, by possibility such an inference might be drawn from the instructions to Mr. R. & anxious that there should be no misunderstanding in the case, subsequent instructions were given to Mr. R. with a view to obviate every objection of the kind alluded to. As they bear date on the 27th of July, and were forwarded by the British packet Althea, it is more than probable that they may have been received and acted on.

I am happy to explain to you thus fully the views of my government on this important subject. The President desires that the war which exists between our countries should be terminated on such conditions as may secure a solid and durable peace. To accomplish this great object it is necessary that the interest of impressment be satisfactorily arranged. He is willing that G. Britain should be secured against the evils of which she complains. He seeks on the other hand that the citizens of the United States should be protected against a practice which, while it degrades the nation, deprives them of their rights as freemen, takes them by force from their families, & their country into a foreign service, to fight the battles of a foreign power, perhaps against their own kindred and country.