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STATE PAPERS.

From the National Intelligencer

RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT To the House of Representatives of the U. States.

I transmit to the House of Representatives a report of the Secretary of State, complying with their resolution of the 11th inst.

JAMES MADISON.

Jan 18, 1814.

REPORT.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 11th inst. requesting the President to communicate to the House any information in his possession, and which it may not be improper to divulge, in relation to the proposition or refusal of the French government to accredit the minister plenipotentiary sent by the U. States to that court, or of his reception if accreditd, of the time when he was so accreditd, and of the progress if the negotiation has the honor to communicate to the President, for the information of the House, the following letters in relation to that subject, viz.

A letter from Mr. Crawford to the Secretary of State of the 13th August, 1813, enclosing one to the Duke of Bassano of the 27th July, and his answer of the 1st of Aug; and an extract of a letter from Mr. Crawford to the Secretary of State of the 8th of September, 1813.

Respectfully submitted, JAMES MONROE, Department of State, Jan. 18 1814.

Mr. Crawford to Mr. Monroe.

Paris 15th Aug. 1813. Sir—On the 27th ult. I wrote to the Duke of Bassano, to inform him of my arrival in Paris, in quality of Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States. On the 8th inst. I received an answer dated at Dresden on the 1st. Copies of my note and of his answer are herewith enclosed.

With sentiments of high respect, &c. WM H. CRAWFORD, Mon. James Monroe, Secretary of State.

Mr. Crawford to the Duke of Bassano.

Paris 27th Aug. 1813. My Lord—I have the honor to inform your excellency that I have been appointed, by the President of the U. States of America, Minister Plenipotentiary to the court of His Imperial and Royal Majesty, the Emperor of the French and King of Italy. I await the pleasure of your excellency as to the time and manner of presenting my official credentials preparatory to my reception by the government of his Imperial and Royal Majesty, as the accredited Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America.

I seize on the present occasion to assure your excellency of the distinguished consideration with which I have the honor to be your most obedient and very humble servant.

WM H. CRAWFORD, His Excellency the Duke of Bassano.

Translation of a letter from the Duke of Bassano, to Mr. Crawford, dated Dresden, Aug. 1st, 1813.

Sir—I have had great pleasure in hearing of your safe arrival in France. I have received the letter which you did me the honor to address to me on the 27th of July, on your nomination in the quality of minister plenipotentiary of the U. States to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French and King of Italy. The choice which your government has made of a person so distinguished in his own country and so worthy of this honorable mission, cannot but be agreeable to his Imperial Majesty; and though he is at this time absent from Dresden, I can give you this assurance in his name. I will have the honor to communicate to you his intentions respecting the presentation of your letters of credence and your reception. Without waiting even for this I will receive all the communications which you may think proper to make me us, the minister plenipotentiary of your government, and the delay of a formality will produce no delay in the exercise of the mission confided to you, or in the correspondence which will procure for me the benefit of residing with you.

DUKE OF BASSANO.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Crawford to Mr. Monroe, dated Paris, Sept. 8th 1813.

I have just received an answer to the note which I addressed to the Duke of Bassano, requesting Mrs. Barlow's passports. On the subject of recognition he says that he is very solicitous I should present my letter of credence to the Emperor in Paris. He does not repeat his invitation to communicate with him. The Emperor in the North (until) the winter. It is believed that the Duke of Bassano will not return before him. If this opinion should be realized, the winter will be far advanced before I shall be able to draw the attention of the French government to the subject of discussion between the two nations.

RUSSIAN MEDIATION.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

To the House of Representatives of the U. S.

I transmit to the House of Representatives a report of the Secretary of State, complying with their resolution of the 15th inst.

JAMES MADISON.

Jan. 18, 1814.

REPORT.

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 15th inst. requesting the President to lay before the House such documents relative to the Russian mediation, as in his opinion it may not be improper to communicate has the honor to transmit to the President, for the information of the House the following papers in relation to that subject, viz.

A letter in French (with a translation) from Mr. Daschkoff, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to the Secretary of State of the 8th March, 1813, with the answer of the Secretary of State of the 13th March.

An extract of a letter from the Secretary of State to Mr. Adams, minister of the United States at St. Petersburg, of the 1st, July 1812, and four letters and extracts from Mr. Adams to the Secretary of State bearing date respectively on the 30th September, 17th October and 11th December 1812, and on the 25th of June, 1813.

All which is respectfully submitted, JAMES MONROE, Department of State, Jan. 18, 1814.

Mr. De Dashkoff, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, to the Secretary of State of the U. States.

(TRANSLATION.)

The undersigned envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, has the honor to make known to the Secretary of State of the United States of America that he has just received orders from the Emperor his master, to make the following overture to his excellency the President of the United States:

The peace of Russia with England seemed to present this immense advantage to the commerce of nearly all seafaring people, that it freed their relations from that constraint, from that continual vexation to which it had been subjected for many years without intermission. The Emperor viewed with pleasure a result as conformable to all his wishes, and which appeared as not being at all doubtful. It became so, however, by the war between England and America.

The undersigned is directed to express to the President of the United States the regret with His Imperial Majesty foresees the great shackles which this new episode is about to oppose to the commercial prosperity of nations. The love of humanity and what he owes to his subjects, whose commerce has already sufficiently suffered, command him to do every thing in his power to remove the evils which this war is preparing even for those nations who will not take part in it.

His Majesty, who takes pleasure, in doing justice to the wisdom of the government of the United States of America, is convinced that it has done all that it could do to prevent this rupture, but treating of it directly would take away from the negotiation all semblance of impartiality. In a direct discussion every thing would tend to excite the prejudices and asperity of the parties. To obviate this inconvenience His Majesty the Emperor, gratified at being able to give a proof of his friendship alike for His Majesty the King of Great Britain and the United States of America, wished to offer to them, his mediation, and charges the undersigned to propose it to the President of the United States.

The undersigned having the honor to communicate to the Secretary of State the sentiments and wishes of his Imperial Majesty, begs him to make them known to the President of the United States. The Emperor would feel great satisfaction if a like disposition on the part of the government of the United States should have the effect of stop-

ping the progress of this new war, and of extinguishing it in its origin. From the satisfactory assurances which the President of the United States has constantly given to the undersigned of the sentiments of regard and friendship on the part of the United States, and of his Excellency for Russia, and particularly for the august person of His Majesty, he cannot but flatter himself that he will receive an answer that shall correspond with the generous wishes of the Emperor his master.

The undersigned cannot refrain from expressing on this occasion, to the Secretary of State, his individual wishes for whatever may have a tendency to re-establish active relations between Russia and the United States, and to advance the prosperity of the republic.

He seizes with eagerness this occasion to renew to the Secretary of State the assurance of his highest consideration and respect.

ANDRE DE DASHKOFF, Washington, 24th Feb. (8th March) 1813.

The Secretary of State to Mr. Daschkoff.

Department of State, March 11, 1813.

Sir—I have had the honor to receive your note of the 8th inst. making known to the President of the United States the disposition of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia, to promote peace, by his friendly mediation, between the United States and Great Britain.

I am instructed by the President to assure you, that he sees in this overture, on the part of your sovereign, strong proofs of that humane and enlightened policy, which have characterized his reign. It was impossible that a war between the United States and Great Britain should not materially affect the commerce of Russia, and it was worthy the high character of a prince, distinguished by his attachment to the interest of his people, to interpose his good office for the restoration of peace. The President sees, at the same time, in this overture, and in the circumstances attending it, a strong proof of the friendly interest which His Imperial Majesty takes in the welfare of the United States.

The United States, conscious that they were not the aggressors in this contest; that on the contrary they had borne great wrongs for a series of years, before they appealed to arms in defence of their rights, are willing and ready to lay them down as soon as Great Britain ceases to violate those rights.

The President is aware that many of the inconveniences resulting from a direct communication between the parties themselves may be avoided by the mediation of a third power, especially one entitled to, and possessing the entire confidence of both the belligerents. To the claim of Russia to that distinguished consideration, the President does not hesitate to express on the part of the United States his full acknowledgment. He recollects with much satisfaction that during a period of great and general contention, the relations of friendship have always subsisted between the U. States and Russia; and he finds in the personal qualities and high character of the Emperor Alexander, a sacred pledge for the justice and impartiality which may be expected from his interposition.

Influenced by these sentiments, the President instructs me to inform you, that he willingly accepts the mediation of your sovereign to promote peace between the U. States and Great Britain. I am instructed also to state, that such arrangements will be made, without delay, as will afford to his Imperial Majesty the opportunity he has invited, to interpose his good offices for the accomplishment of so important an event. Of the arrangement I shall have the honor to advise you in an early communication.

I have the honor to be, &c. (Signed) JAS. MONROE.

Extract of a letter from the Secretary of State to John Quincy Adams, Esq. minister plenipotentiary of the United States at St. Petersburg.

Department of State, July 1, 1813.

Sir—On the 18th ult. a declaration of war against Great Britain passed Congress; and of which, of the President's message; and report of the Committee of Foreign Relations of the House of Representatives leading to it, I have the honor to transmit to you copies.

You are too well acquainted with the causes which produced this result to require any explanation of them. As it appeared that G. Britain could not revoke her orders in council, in the just

grounds on which it was claimed, but enlarged the conditions on which she professed her willingness to revoke them, there remained no honorable course for the United States to pursue short of war. On full consideration of all circumstances, this measure was adopted, and the government is resolved to pursue it till its objects are accomplished with the utmost decision and activity in its power.

In resorting to war against Great Britain, as the United States have done, by inevitable necessity, it is their desire and hope that it may be confined to her only.

It is seen with much regret that the Emperor of Russia is likely to be reduced to the necessity of becoming a party to the war in Europe, if he has not already become so. Should that event take place, there is no reason why the war between the United States and G. Britain should affect, in the slightest degree, the very friendly relations which now exist between the United States and Russia. It is the sincere desire of this government to preserve, in their utmost extent, those relations with that power.

With France, our affairs in many important circumstances are still unsettled; nor is there any certainty that a satisfactory settlement of them will be obtained. Should it, however, be the case, it is not probable that it will produce any closer connexion between the United States and that power. It is not anticipated that any event whatever will have that effect.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Adams to the Secretary of State.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 30, 1813.

On the 20th inst. I received a note from the chancellor requesting me to call upon him the next evening, which I accordingly did; he told me that he had asked to see me by the Emperor's command; that having made peace & established the relations of amity and commerce with Great Britain, the Emperor was much concerned and disappointed to find the whole benefit which he expected his subjects would derive commercially from that event, defeated and lost by the new war which had arisen between the United States and England; that he had thought he perceived various indications that there was on both sides a reluctance at engaging in and prosecuting a war, and it had occurred to the Emperor that perhaps an amicable arrangement of the differences between the parties might be accommodated more easily and speedily by indirect than by direct negotiation; that his majesty had directed him to see me, and to enquire if I was free of any difficulty or obstacle on the part of the government of the United States, if he should offer his mediation for the purpose of effecting a pacification. I answered that it was obviously impossible for me to speak on this subject any otherwise than from the general knowledge which I had of the sentiments of my government; and that I was so far from knowing what their ideas were with regard to the continuance of the war, that I had not to that day received an official communication of its declaration; but that I well knew it was with reluctance they had engaged in the war; that I was very sure, whatever determination they might form upon the proposal of the Emperor's mediation, they would receive and consider it as a new evidence of His Majesty's regard and friendship for the United States, I was not aware of any obstacle or difficulty which could occasion them to decline accepting it.

I knew the war would affect unfavorably the interest of Russia, I knew it must be highly injurious both to the United States and England. I could see no good result as likely to arise from it to any one. The count replied, that he had considered it altogether in the same light, and so had the Emperor, who was sincerely concerned at it, and who had himself conceived this idea of authorising his mediation. He thought an indirect negotiation conducted there, aided by the conciliatory wishes of a friend to both parties, might smooth down difficulties which in direct discussion between the principal might be found insuperable. To a mutual friend, each party might exhibit all its claims, and all its complaints, without danger of exciting irritations or raising impediments. The part of Russia would only be to hear both sides, and to use her best endeavors to conciliate them. I observed that there was a third party to be consulted as to the

proposals of the British government. The count answered, that it had already been suggested by him to the British ambassador, Lord Cathart, who had the day before despatched it by a messenger to his court. Some question occurred concerning the mode of enabling me to transmit this communication to the United States, upon which the count promised to see me again in the course of a few days. He said that he should write to Mr. Daschkoff, and instruct him to make the proposition to the government of the United States.

Mr. Adams to the Secretary of State

St. Petersburg, Oct. 17, 1813.

Sir—I received a few days since a letter from Mr. Russel dated at London, the 9th of September, and informing that his mission there had closed, that he had received his passports, and that in three days from that time he should leave the city to embark at Plymouth for the United States. He adds that the British government had rejected a proposition which he had been authorized to make for a suspension of hostilities.

The evening before last I had another interview with the Chancellor Count Romanzoff, at his request. There had been rumors in circulation here of an armistice in Canada, & of the appointment of commissioners by the President for a new negotiation with G. Britain. The Count asked me if I had any authentic information of these circumstances. I said I had not, that my information was altogether of a different aspect; and I told him the substance of Mr. Russel's communication. He then observed that this incident would not discourage this government from making an offer of its mediation, which he had suggested to me in a former conference. On the contrary, the failure of very new attempt at direct negotiation, confirmed him in the belief and hope that a mediation of a common friend, not only desirous from the sentiment of friendship to see the parties reconciled to each other, but having also a strong interest of his own in their reconciliation.

The Count said he had his dispatches for Daschkoff ready instructing him to make the proposition in form to the American government, and he asked me whether I could indicate to him a mode of transmitting them directly to the U. States. In our former conversation (reported in my letter of the 30th ult.) I had offered to despatch one of the American vessels now at Cronstadt, if the British ambassador would furnish her a passport, or any document that would protect her from capture by British armed vessels. The count said he had made the proposal to the ambassador, who had expressed his readiness to give the document, provided the vessel and messenger should go by the way of England, a condition which the count said he had told the ambassador he could not ask me to agree to, and which I did not think it in fact suitable to comply. There are, however, two American gentlemen here on the point of departure for the U. S. had by them I shall transmit this despatch and its duplicate, together with those of the chancellor to Mr. Daschkoff. I am, &c. JOHN Q. ADAMS.

Mr. Adams to the Secretary of State.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 11, 1813.

Sir—On the 4th inst. I received the duplicate of your favor of 1st July last announcing the declaration of the Congress of the U. S. of war against Great Britain, and enclosing printed copies of the President's proclamation founded upon it, of his previous message recommending it, of the report of the committee of foreign relations proposing it, and of the National Intelligencer of the 20th June. The original of your letter with these documents not having yet come to hand these gave me the first official communication of the war.

I had on the 7th inst. an interview with the Chancellor Count Romanzoff, in which I communicated to him the substance of that part of your dispatch which related to Russia, & those which concern the state of our relations with France. In the present state of the war between this country and France, I was convinced that the view of the American government's intentions with regard to that power, so explicitly and so strongly manifested in your letter, would not only be gratifying to the Chancellor, but that it would be satisfactory to the emperor, and would powerfully counteract any impressions unfavorable to the U. States, which the English