

Extract of a letter from Mr. Adams to Mr. Monroe.

LONDON, 15th August, 1815.

"I had mentioned the subject of the slaves in my first interview with him, (Lord Castlereagh,) and he had then expressed an intention to refer it to the Commissioners, with whom we were then negotiating the commercial convention. But they received no instructions relative to it, and considered their powers as limited to the objects upon which my colleagues were authorized, conjointly with me, to treat. The day before Lord Castlereagh left town, I spoke to him again concerning it. He had just received despatches from Mr. Baker relating to it, but had not had time to read them, and merely told me that, during his absence, Lord Liverpool, or Lord Bathurst, would attend to the business of his Department. After writing the note, of which the copy is enclosed, I requested an interview with Lord Liverpool, for which he appointed last Saturday, but an accident prevented me from then meeting him. I have renewed the request, but as he was not in town, when my note was sent, it may be deferred until after Mr. Bagot's departure."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Adams to Lord Castlereagh.

Charles Street, Westminster, 9th August, 1815.

"In two several conferences with your Lordship, I have had the honor of mentioning the refusal of his Majesty's naval commanders, who, at the restoration of peace between the United States and Great Britain, were stationed on the American coast, to restore the slaves taken by them from their owners in the United States during the war, and then in their possession, notwithstanding the stipulation in the first article of the treaty of Ghent, that such slaves should not be carried away. Presuming that you are in possession of the correspondence on this subject, which has passed between the Secretary of State of the United States, and Mr. Baker, it will be unnecessary for me to repeat the demonstration, that the carrying away of these slaves is incompatible with the terms of the treaty. But, as a reference to the documents of the negotiation at Ghent may serve to elucidate the intentions of the contracting parties, I am induced to present them to your consideration, in the hope, that the Minister of his Majesty, now about to depart for the United States, may be authorized to direct the restitution of the slaves, conformably to the treaty, or to provide for the payment of the value of those carried away contrary to that stipulation; which, in the event of their not being restored, I am instructed by my government to claim. The first projet of the treaty of Ghent was offered by the American plenipotentiaries, and that part of the first article relating to slaves, was therein expressed in the following manner: "All territory,

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