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Madison was also of the same opinion is demonstrated, by his letters to Messrs. Monroe and Pinkney, dated the 3d of February, 1807, in which he uses these expressions. "I take it for granted that you have not failed to make due use of the arrangement concerted by Mr. King with Lord Hawkebury, in the year 1803, for settling the question of impressment. On that occasion and under that administration the British principle was fairly renounced in favor of the right of our flag; Lord Hawkebury having agreed to prohibit impressments on the high seas." And Lord St. Vincents requiring nothing more than an exception of the narrow seas, an exception resting on the obsolete claim of Great-Britain to some peculiar dominion over them." Here then we have a full acknowledgment that Great-Britain was willing to renounce the right of impressment, on the high seas, in favor of our flag;—that she was anxious to arrange the subject.

It further appears that the British ministry called for an interview with Messrs. Monroe and Pinkney, on this topic; that they stated the nature of the claim, the king's prerogative; that they had consulted the crown officers and the board of admiralty, who all concurred in sentiment, that under the circumstances of the nation, the relinquishment of the right was a measure, which the government could not adopt, without taking on itself a responsibility, which no ministry would be willing to meet, however pressing the exigency might be. They offered, however, on the part of Great-Britain, to pass laws making it penal for British commanders to impress American citizens, on board of American vessels, on the high seas, if America would pass a law, making it penal for the officers of the United States to grant certificates of citizenship to British subjects. This will be found, in the same documents, in a letter from Messrs. Monroe and Pinkney to Mr. Madison, dated 11th November, 1806. Under their peremptory instructions, his proposition, on the part of Great-Britain, could not be acceded to by our ministers. Such, however, was the temper and anxiety of England, and such the candor and good sense of our ministers, that an *honorable and advantageous arrangement did take place*. The authority of Mr. Monroe, then minister at the court of Great-Britain, now Secretary of State, and one of the present administration, who have recommended war with England, and assigned impressments as a cause, supports the undersigned in asserting, that it was honorable and advantageous: for in a letter from Richmond dated the 28th of February, 1808, to Mr. Madison, the following expressions are used by Mr. Monroe, "I have on the contrary always believed and still do believe that the ground on which that interest (impressment) was placed by the paper of the British Commissioners of 8th November, 1806, and the explanation which accompanied it, *was both honorable and advantageous to the United States*, that it contained a concession in their favor on the part of Great-Britain, on the great principle in contestation, never before made by a formal and obligatory act of their government which was highly favorable to their interest."

With the opinion of Mr. King so decidedly expressed, with the official admission of Mr. Madison, with the explicit declaration of Mr. Monroe, all concurring that Great-Britain was ready, to abandon impressment on the high seas, and with an honorable and advantageous arrangement, actually made by Mr. Monroe, how can it be pretended, that all hope of settlement, by treaty, has failed; how can this subject furnish a proper cause of war?