

“ The capture of one of these vessels had before
 “ been notified by the Ambassador of his Catholic
 “ Majesty by order of his Court, who at the same
 “ time desired that measures might be taken for pre-
 “ venting his Majesty’s subjects from frequenting
 “ those coasts, which were alledged to have been
 “ previously occupied and frequented by the subjects
 “ of Spain. Complaints were also made of the
 “ fisheries carried on by his Majesty’s subjects, in
 “ the seas adjoining to the Spanish continent, as being
 “ contrary to the rights of the crown of Spain. In
 “ consequence of this line of communication, a de-
 “ mand was immediately made, by his Majesty’s
 “ order, for adequate satisfaction, and for restitution
 “ of the vessels previous to any other discussion.

“ By the answer from the Court of Spain, it ap-
 “ pears, that these vessels and their crews had been
 “ set at liberty by the Viceroy of Mexico, but this is
 “ represented to have been done by him, on the
 “ supposition that nothing but the ignorance of the
 “ rights of Spain had encouraged the individuals of
 “ other nations to come to those coasts for the pur-
 “ pose of making establishments for carrying on
 “ trade, and in conformity to his previous instruc-
 “ tions requesting him to shew all possible regard to
 “ the British nation. No satisfaction was made or
 “ offered, and a direct claim was asserted by the
 “ Court of Spain to the exclusive rights of sove-
 “ reignty, navigation, and commerce, in the terri-
 “ tories and coasts in that part of the world and
 “ seas.

“ His