

challenged him to show an instance of an officer having purchased his discharge from such service. He would name a Mr. Ford, who had served with him in the *Imperieuse*, who had done so; and Nelson, his cockswain of that vessel, had been placed in harbor service, and had returned to him; and another person of the name of Farley of the *Leda*, had three times left that degrading service, and had each time returned to him, and died with him, completely worn out in the service. These were facts which he was prepared to prove at the bar, as he was all those which had been denied with so much warmth by the right honorable secretary. To show further that the crews of British ships of war were unequal to themselves heretofore, he would relate what was the opinion of a person not at all likely to be disaffected to the order of things—he was then son of a bishop; he had taken an American privateer, the crew of which consisted of only 130 men, and he had declared, that he would rather have them than his own crew, consisting of 240. If the right honorable secretary doubted this fact, he might enquire, and he would easily verify it. The noble lord had heard that the sailors taken prisoners by the Americans, had been found running away in the back settlements; that forty of them had been brought back by force, and that from the manifestation of this propensity, the exchange of prisoners had been broken off. The lateness of the period at which he had brought forward his resolution had been complained of. He did intend to bring in a bill to limit the term of service, but circumstances had prevented him; but he would carry his intention into effect in the next session. With respect to parliamentary influence, the right honorable secretary had asked, whether he had found it of service to himself in his profession? He certainly had not, because he had never prostituted his vote for that purpose—but he had no doubt others had found that influence of great avail. When he again brought forward the subject, he should prove all the facts he had adduced, and he hoped so much ignorance of the subject would not then be found to prevail.

Mr. Croker replied to the questions put by lord Coch-