

even from their merchant service—to this proposal the British ministers appeared to listen, but they said it was necessary to consult their law officers, and the result was, as our ministers state, “a rejection of the project, and with it *all hope* of obtaining at that time any satisfactory stipulations respecting impressments.”

At their next interview, the British commissioners presented the report of their crown officer, declaring his opinion “that Great-Britain had a right to the services of her own citizens, and to take them out of neutral merchants’ ships on the high seas—that as merchant ships were extra-territorial they were not admitted to possess such a jurisdiction as to protect British subjects from their own sovereign—they stated further that the admiralty and all the crown officers had been consulted and they added explicitly, though in a very conciliating manner, that it was not in their power to accede to our proposal, and that all the law officers united in the opinion, that the *right* of their government was *well founded* and *ought not to be relinquished*. They added, that under such circumstances, the relinquishment of it was a measure which the government *could not adopt* without taking upon itself a responsibility, which *no ministry* could be willing to meet, *however pressing the emergency might be.*”

Here ended the negotiation as to the *absolute renunciation of the right*, and we ask all candid men, whether we have not fully maintained our first point, that this negotiation proved that Great-Britain will never relinquish *the right*, however pressing the emergency may be.

Let it be considered who were the British negotiators—men, who for ten years had condemned the Pitt ministry for their unbending, unconciliatory conduct towards America—men, who Monroe most extravagantly praised—men, upon whom Mr. Madison himself has since repeatedly bestowed high eulogiums. Yet these men declared that such were the feelings of the British nation—so united were all its civilians on the justice of their claim, that no ministry would ever dare to relinquish it. And do we say that she never will, in any event, relinquish it? NO—She may do it, not because the Canadas shall be wrested from her—but she may do it, when the American flag shall ride triumphant in the Downs, when our navy shall have acquired the supremacy which hers now possesses on the ocean, and when the wishes of France for her downfall shall be accomplished.

NO. XII.

MR. MONROE AND PINKNEY'S NEGOTIATION ABOUT IMPRESSMENTS.

DURING Mr. Fox's indisposition, which ended in his death, our ministers had one interview with Lord Grenville—and I quote it to shew, that another leading man in the same nation had the same