

was matured, and sought to be carried out in the United States, and not in Canada; there was not a Canadian, or any man enlisted in Canada. 2ndly, No act of hostility was committed on Canadian waters or soil. Any man may lawfully come into, or leave Canada as he may please, and no foreign government can complain of the exercise of this right here. These men embarked on an American vessel from Detroit, or sprang on to it while in motion, from Canadian wharfs. The boat did not properly *stop* at Sandwich, or Amherstburg at all, as the Customs will show. It touched at two American ports, and was not captured until within range of the 30-pounder Parrot guns of the 14-gun steamer. What act of hostility had been committed up to this time? Another boat containing thirty or forty United States soldiers was captured in an American port. After wooding up, the "*Philo Parsons*" proceeded to the mouth of Sandusky Bay for the purpose of attacking the "*Michigan*," when six-sevenths of the crew refused to do duty, and thus necessitated the abandonment of the enterprise.

3rdly. What is this *Michigan* that she can not be attacked? Is the fact that she carries thirteen more guns than the treaty stipulation between the United States and England allows, a sufficient reason why she is not to be subject to attack? England allows this boat to remain guarding Confederate prisoners, though she carries an armament in violation of the treaty.

Before these men are condemned, judge if they have broken your laws. No "murder" was committed, indeed not a life was lost. There was no searching of prisoners, no "robbing." It is true the boats were abused; but, Sir, they were captured by Confederates, enemies of the United States, and however questionable the taste, the right is clear. These men were not "burglars," or "pirates," enemies of mankind, unless hatred and hostility to the Yankees be taken as a sin against humanity, or a crime against civilization.