

complete Hostility, is rendered more reprehensible from the Consideration that just before this Aggression he held a Station within the Jurisdiction of the United States, in the Waters of the Chesapeake, where, while he enjoyed the Rights of Hospitality, he projected this Attack against the Ship of a Neutral Power, whose Commander, relying on the good Faith of His Majesty's Government, and the friendly Relations subsisting between Great Britain and the United States, could not have suspected the Design. I might state other Examples of great Indignity and Outrage, many of which are of recent Date, to which the United States have been exposed, off their Coast, and even within several of their Harbours, from the British Squadron; but it is improper to mingle them with the present more serious Cause of Complaint. I have called your Attention to this Subject, in full Confidence that His Majesty's Government will see in the Act complained of, a flagrant Abuse of its own Authority, and that it will not hesitate to enable me to communicate to my Government, without Delay, a frank Disavowal of the Principle on which it was made, and its Assurance that the Officer who is responsible for it, shall suffer the Punishment which so unexampled an Aggression on the Sovereignty of a Neutral Nation justly deserves.

I have the Honour to be,
with great Consideration, &c.

(Signed) *James Monroe.*

The Right Hon. George Canning,
&c. &c. &c.