

ings, if any, it might be right to take thereupon. The officers of the United States considered the *prima facie* case against the Maury to be sufficient to call for proceedings on their part. Such proceedings were accordingly instituted by them, and not by Mr Barclay, whose conduct in regard to the Maury was in strict performance of his duty, and received the approval of her Majesty's Government.

"With regard to the last point, the undersigned must refer to the offers of satisfaction, and to the explanations already made, and to the repeated expression of the sincere regret of her Majesty's Government, if, contrary to their intentions, and to their reiterated directions, there has been any infringement of the laws of the United States.

"The undersigned has now had the satisfaction of communicating to the Government of the United States the statements and declarations of her Majesty's Minister at Washington and of her Majesty's Consuls at Cincinnati, Philadelphia, and New York, as to the conduct imputed to them.

"The Government of the United States had been led to suppose that the law and the sovereign rights of the United States had not been respected by her Majesty's Government, and, relying upon evidence deemed to be trustworthy, they believed that that law and those rights had been infringed by British agents. If such had been the case, the Government of the United States would have been entitled to demand, and her Majesty's Government would not have hesitated to afford the most ample satisfaction, for no discredit can attach to the frank admission and complete reparation of an unquestionable wrong. Her Majesty's Government, however, unequivocally disclaim any intention either to infringe the law or to disregard the policy, or not to respect the sovereign rights of the United States, and the Government of the United States will now for the first time learn that her Majesty's Minister at Washington, and her Majesty's Consuls at New York, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati, solemnly affirm that they have not committed any of the acts that have been imputed to them. The Government of the United States will now also for the first time have an opportunity of weighing the declarations of four gentlemen of unimpeached honour and integrity against evidence upon which no reliance ought to be placed. The undersigned cannot but express the earnest hope of her Majesty's Government that these explanations and assurances may prove satisfactory to the Government of the United States, and effectually remove any misapprehension which may have hitherto existed; and he cannot doubt that such a result will afford as much pleasure to the Government of the United States as to that of her Majesty, by putting an end to a difference which has been deeply regretted by her Majesty's Government, for there are no two countries which are bound by stronger ties or by higher considerations than the United States and Great Britain to maintain unbroken the relations of perfect cordiality and friendship.

"The undersigned, &c.

"(Signed)

"CLARENDON."

He does not venture to reply to the request for the recall of Mr Crampton and the Consuls; he merely submits their denial.