

# NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER, EXTRA.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16.

The President of the U. States this day communicated the following MESSAGE to the Senate:

To the Senate of the United States.

In compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 20th instant, I transmit extracts from letters from Mr. Pinkney to the Secretary of State, accompanied by letters and communications to him, from the British Secretary of State for the Foreign Department; all of which have been received here since the last session of Congress.

To these documents are added a communication just made by Mr. Erskine to the Secretary of State, and his answer.

JAMES MADISON.

June 15, 1809.

FROM MR. CANNING.

Foreign Office, 24th Dec. 1808.

SIR, In my official note of the 23d of September, I stated to you the probability that some alterations might be made in the orders in council, with a view to adapt the operation more exactly to the altered state of Europe, and to combine all practicable relief to neutrals with a more severe pressure upon the enemy.

As this statement was however only incidental, and that at the same time disclaimed my intention of taking advantage of such proposed alterations in the discussions then pending between us—seeing that if made, they would not be founded on the admission of any of the principles for which you were contending—it was perhaps not necessary that I should trouble you with any further communication upon this subject. But the order of which I have the honor to inclose a copy, having been passed by His Majesty in Council on Wednesday last, I am desirous previously to its actual publication, of explaining to you the grounds on which the more extended alterations, which were in contemplation, had been suspended.

It was intended to relax in a certain degree the regulations of the orders in council, with respect to such of the powers in hostility with His Majesty as were not, or should not place themselves, in a state of hostility with Spain; but at the same time that this relaxation was intended to other powers, to prohibit absolutely by strict, vigorous and unmitigated blockade, all intercourse whatever with France.

The adoption by these powers, who were to have been the objects of such relaxation, of the views and projects of France with respect to Spain, does every day assign a ground of distinction between France and those powers, and that part therefore of the intended alterations does not take place.

The alteration contained in the inclosed order in council stands upon a separate ground, and, as I have more than once understood from you that the part of the orders in council which this order goes to mitigate is that which was felt most sorely in the United States, I have great pleasure in being authorized to communicate it to you.

I have the honor to be, with great consideration,

Sir,  
Your most obedient,

Humble servant,  
GEORGE CANNING.  
William Pinkney, Esq.

His Majesty, in virtue of the powers reserved to him, by two certain acts passed in the 48th year of His Majesty's reign, the one entitled "An act for granting to His Majesty, until the end of the next session of Parliament, duties of customs on the goods, wares, and merchandise therein enumerated, in furtherance of the provisions of certain orders in council." The other entitled "An act for granting to His Majesty, until the end of the next session of Parliament, certain duties on the exportation from Ireland, of goods, wares, and merchandise therein enumerated," is pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the operation of the aforesaid acts be suspended as to any duties on exportation, granted by the said acts, so far as relates to articles being the growth, produce or manufacture of any country, for the time being, in amity with His Majesty, and from the ports of which the British flag is not excluded, imported direct from such country into any port or place of the United Kingdom, either in British ships or in ships of the country of which such articles are the growth, produce or manufacture.

And His Majesty is further pleased, with the advice aforesaid, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the said duties on exportation be suspended, as to all goods, wares and merchandise, which have been, or may be condemned as prize, until further order shall be made therein.

MR. PINKNEY TO MR. CANNING.  
Great Court-yard Place,  
Dec. 28th, 1808.

SIR, I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 24th instant, communicating an order passed by His Majesty in Council on Wednesday last; and have transmitted copies of these papers to my government.

It is perfectly true, as the concluding paragraph of your letter supposes me to believe, that the United States have viewed with great dissatisfaction the pretension of this government (which, as a pretension the present order plainly reasserts, without much, if at all, modifying its practical effect,) to levy imposts upon their commerce, cutward and inward, which the orders in council of the last year were to constrain to pass through British ports.

But it is equally true, that my government has constantly protested against the entire system, with which that pretension was connected, and has in consequence required the repeal, not the modification, of the British orders in council.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, your most obedient,  
(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Pinkney to the Secretary of State, dated March 10, 1809.

"I have received from Mr. Canning a notification of Blockade of which a copy is enclosed."

MR. CANNING TO MR. PINKNEY.

The undersigned, his majesty's principal secretary of state for foreign affairs, has received his majesty's commands to acquaint Mr. Pinkney that his majesty has judged it expedient to establish the most rigorous blockade of the Isles of Mauritius and Bourbon. Mr. Pinkney is therefore requested to apprise the American Consuls and Merchants, residing in England, of the Isles above mentioned, and must be considered as being in a state of blockade; and that from this time all the measures authorized by the law of nations, and the respective treaties between his majesty and the different neutral powers, will be adopted and executed with respect to all vessels attempting to violate the said blockade after this notice.

The undersigned requests Mr. Pinkney to accept the assurances of his high confidence.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.  
Foreign Office, March 8, 1809.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Pinkney to the Secretary of State, dated London, May 1, 1809.

"I had the honor to receive, on the 25th of March, the letter of your predecessor of the 10th of February; and on the 13th of last month Lieutenant Recor delivered to me your letter of the 15th of March."

"Upon the receipt of your letter of the 15th of March, it became my obvious duty to ask a conference with Mr. Canning, which was conducted on Monday, the 17th of April."

"At the close of the conference he told me that my communications were such as would require reflection, and would naturally make him anxious to see my agents, and that he would fix as early a day as possible, and give me notice."

"Our next interview took place on the 27th of April."

"Mr. Canning read the new order in council, and then proceeded very briefly to suggest the practical alterations which it would introduce."

"I thought I should best discharge my duty by forbearing useless discussion; and by receiving as it was offered, by either of us, a proposal, if any, to an actual improvement, capable of future extension under the auspices of just and friendly sentiments and enlightened policy."

MR. CANNING TO MR. PINKNEY.  
Foreign Office, April 30, 1809.

SIR, When I had the honor to transmit to you on the 24th of December last, the orders in council passed on the 21st of that month, I referred to that passage of my official note of the 23d of September, 1808, in which I stated to you that, "It is not improbable indeed that some alterations may be made in the Orders in Council, as they are at present framed; alterations calculated not to abate their spirit or impair their principle, but to adapt them more exactly to the different state of things which has fortunately grown up in the Orders in Council, all practicable relief to neutrals with a more severe pressure upon the enemy,"—and I at the same time explained to you the grounds on which the design of the larger alterations

which had been in contemplation 14 September was for the time laid aside. By the order of Council which I have now the honor to inclose to you, that design, as explained in my official note of September 23d, is fully carried into execution.

I have the honor to be,

With the highest consideration,  
Sir, your most obedient

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.  
William Pinkney, Esq. Sec. &c.

(Which follows the British order of the 26th of April, as given in our paper of the 12th inst.)

MR. ERSKINE TO MR. SMITH.  
Washington, June 15, 1809.

SIR, I have the honor to enclose the copy of an order of His Majesty in Council, issued on the 26th of April last.

In consequence of official communications sent to me from His Majesty's government, since the adoption of that measure, I am enabled to assure you that it has no connection whatever with the overtures, which I have been authorized to make to the government of the United States, and that I am persuaded that the terms of the agreement, so happily concluded by the recent negotiations, will be strictly fulfilled on the part of His Majesty.

The internal evidence of the order itself would fully justify the foregoing statement; and moreover, it will not have escaped your notice that the repeal has not thereby been made of the order of the 7th of January, 1807, which according to the engagement I have entered into, on the part of His Majesty, is to be revoked with the other orders, in consequence of the adjustment of differences between the two countries, and the confidence entertained of a further conciliatory understanding.

I have the honor to be,

With the highest respect  
and consideration,  
Sir, your most obedient humble

Servant,  
(Signed) D. B. ERSKINE.  
The Hon. Robt. Smith, Sec. &c. &c.

MR. SMITH TO MR. ERSKINE.  
Department of State, June 15, 1809.

SIR, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of this day, communicating the order in Council, issued by His Britannic Majesty on the 26th April last.

However well persuaded the President was, at all times, have been that the arrangements, so happily effected by the late negotiation, would be strictly fulfilled on the part of His Britannic Majesty, he has, nevertheless, received with satisfaction your renewed assurances to that effect, with the further assurance, founded on official communications to you from your government since the adoption of the order in Council of the 26th April, that, that order was not intended to have any connection with the overtures, which you had been authorized to make to the government of the United States.

I have the honor to be,

With the highest respect,  
Your most obedient servant,  
(Signed) R. SMITH.  
Hon. David M. Erskine, Sec. &c. &c.