

Copy

Sierra Leone 17th March 1825

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Note dated yesterday, and in reference thereto, I request your attention to the following extract of the Note which you did me the honor to write to me on the 19th Instant:

"Le Sous-Signé Commissaire Supr de S. M. C. à Sierra Leone a l'honneur de faire savoir à Monsieur Le Commissaire de S. M. B. qui ayant reçu les Instructions qu'il avait demandées à son Gouvernement relativement au Navire Espagnol le Josefa, Il peut aujourd'hui procéder à l'examen de cette affaire"

This part of your Note avows the fact of your having written to your Government for Instructions relative to the case of the Josefa, and of your being authorised in consequence of the receipt of such Instructions to proceed to the adjudication thereof, from whence it may be clearly inferred, that when the affair of the Josefa was first agitated, you declined the examination of it until you first received from your Court Instructions

Le Sous-Signé

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Instructions for the purpose; the inference which is thus drawn is supported by the knowledge which our colleagues in common with myself, have of the facts in question, and how far all this is consonant with the observations contained in your Note of yesterday, that you never refused to proceed to the examination of the case of the Josefa, I leave you yourself to decide, merely observing in conclusion, that it was in consequence of your declining to act in the beforementioned case, until you receive Instructions from your Government, that I felt it to be my duty to write to my own for orders on the same subject, and that if during your illness, His Catholic Majesty's Commissioner of Arbitration was not requested to sit in judgment upon that subject, it was owing to the understanding which existed prior to your illness, that all proceedings touching the Josefa were to be suspended until the determination of our respective Governments relative to her should be made known to us. I repeat what I stated to you in my Note of the 10th Inst. that I could not act in the case of the Josefa until I received the Instructions which I had solicited from my Government, and have the honor to be,

Yours very humble servants
(Signed) Tho^s Gregory

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Spanish Commission
Pioze Agency

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Siena Leone 5th March 1820

My Lord,

In our joint letter of the 12th Nov. respecting the appointment of the subordinate Officers under the Netherlands Commission, in adverting to the very persevering efforts of Mr. Van Sertima to appoint an Agent (Mr. Castille) whom we knew to be altogether unfit for the charge, we thought it due in justice to the Commissioners of His Catholic Majesty to say that they left it entirely to us to make such appointments, being, as they observed 'altogether strangers and having the fullest reliance that we would appoint the most eligible persons.' -

The Agency thus originally adopted and communicated to your Lordship together with the motives which induced us to recommend it, proved faithful, and satisfactory, as we were confident it would, and was

continued

The Right Hon^{ble} Viscount Castlereagh
Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

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