



Edinburgh Gazette.

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.

FROM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, TO FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1823.

WHEREAS on the 12th March 1823, a Convention between his Britannick Majesty and the King of Spain was concluded and signed at Madrid, for the purpose of establishing a Commission to consider and to decide upon all Cases that shall be brought before it, properly authenticated, of the Capture and Seizure of British Vessels, or Detention of Property belonging to the Subjects of his Britannick Majesty, from the Declaration of Peace between England and Spain of the 4th July 1808 to the 12th of March 1823; as also upon all Cases that should be brought before it of the Capture or Seizure of Spanish Vessels, or Detention of Property belonging to the Subjects of his Catholick Majesty during the same period, of which the following is a Copy:—

Convention between his Majesty and the King of the Spains, for the amicable Adjustment of Complaints respecting the Capture and Detention of British Vessels and Property by Spanish Authorities.

Signed at Madrid, March 12, 1823.

HIS Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and his Majesty the King of the Spains, equally animated by the desire of arriving at an amicable adjustment of the various complaints which have been from time to time laid before the Spanish Government, of the capture of Vessels, and seizure and detention of Property belonging to British Subjects, by Spanish Authorities, as well as of other grievances; Their said Majesties have been pleased to name Plenipotentiaries for the conclusion of a Convention for the attainment of this desirable purpose, to wit; His Britannick Majesty, the Right Honourable Sir William à Court, Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath, one of his Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of the Spains; and his Catholick Majesty, his Excellency Don Evaristo de San Miguel, Colonel of Infantry, Adjutant-General on the Staff of the National Armies, and Secretary of State for the Foreign Department; who, after having communicated their Full Powers, have agreed upon the following Articles.

ARTICLE I.

A Mixed Commission, English and Spanish, consisting of Two Members of each Nation, shall be appointed, and meet in London, within Ten Weeks after the signature of the present Convention, or sooner if possible, for the purpose of taking into consideration and deciding in a summary manner, according to equity, upon all cases that shall be brought before it, properly authenticated, of the capture or seizure of British Vessels, or detention of Property belonging to Subjects of his Britannick Majesty, from the Declaration of Peace between England and Spain, of the 4th of July 1808, to the date of the present Convention; and also upon all cases that shall be brought before it, of the capture or seizure of Spanish Vessels, or detention of property belonging to the Subjects of his Catholick Majesty, during the same period.

ARTICLE II.

Should any difference of opinion arise amongst the Members of the said Commission, and their votes be equally divided, a reference shall then be made to the Spanish Envoy at the Court of London, and a Law Officer of the Crown to be named by his Britannick Majesty. If these Arbitrators should also be divided in opinion, it shall be determined, by lot, which of the Two shall definitively decide the question.

ARTICLE III.

An Assignment of Forty Millions of Rials upon the Great Book, shall, according to the Decree of the Cortes, immediately be made to the said Commissioners, for the payment of such Indemnifications as may be awarded by the Commission. This Sum shall be increased or diminished, as the Decree points out, according as a greater or lesser number of Claims shall be admitted as valid, exceeding, in the one case, or not amounting to, in the other, the whole amount of the Sum in the first instance deposited.

ARTICLE IV.

The Claims of Spanish Subjects which shall be acknowledged just, shall be paid by the British Government either in Stock, or by an Equivalent in Money.

ARTICLE V.

As soon as the Commissioners shall have admitted any Claim as valid, and determined the amount due to the Claimant, they shall assign or transfer, in favour of such Claimant, a portion of the said Rentes equivalent to the Amount awarded, estimating the value thereof according to the current price in London of the said Rentes, at the time of making such assignment or transfer.

ARTICLE VI.

No Claim shall be admitted, which shall not be submitted to the Commission within Six Months after its first Meeting.

ARTICLE VII.

A Person shall be named by each Government, for the selection and transmission of whatever Papers or Documents it may be necessary to forward from Madrid for the consideration of the Commission, and to arrange the transfer of the Rentes, as the respective Amounts shall be awarded.

In witness whereof, We, the Undersigned Plenipotentiaries of Their Britannick and Catholick Majesties, duly authorized by our Full Powers, have signed Two Originals of the present Convention, and have affixed thereunto the Seals of our Arms, in Madrid, this twelfth day of March one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three.

(L. S.) WILLIAM à COURT.

The Commissioners appointed in pursuance of the said Convention hereby give notice, that, under the power vested in them, they are ready to receive, hear, and determine, at their Office, No. 12, Manchester-Buildings, Westminster, all Claims of the nature aforesaid; and all persons whom it may concern are hereby desired to observe the stipulation contained in the 6th Article of the said Convention, whereby no Claim will be admitted which is not submitted to the Commission within Six Months after the present notice.

London, October 11, 1823.

E. J. DAWKINS.

ROBERT ALB. COX.

DIEGO COLON.

JUSTO DE MACHADO.