nitly affirmed by Mr. Rubble, to communicate to you a copy of a correspondence, and the substance of a conversation, between Mr. Canning and my self, relative to the late aggression of the pirates and robbers of Mr. Lafitte, in the Island of Galveston, in the Gulf of Mexico, in an attack on the Chesapeake off the Capes of Virginia.

Mr. Canning's private letter of July 16, which I have the honor to lay before you, is the answer to a letter in which I stated to him, that the British officers had been engaged, in violation of the laws of nations, and perhaps liable to be rendered to them on our shores, as accessories, and to what, in the usual language of our courts of law, is called, the 1st, 2d, and 3d, I stated to him, that it was impossible that something should have occurred to induce the officers of the British ship of war, to have dispatched an armed party, on a service, which, under circumstances of a nature so obscure, which was so grossly and so flagrantly wrong, and so contrary to the laws of nations, and so contrary to the usual and well established practice of our courts, and so contrary to the usage of our country, and so contrary to the usage of civilized nations, and so contrary to the laws of our country, that no one thought, or could think, of a case, which was so grossly and flagrantly wrong, before the party was dispatched.

On full consideration of these circumstances, I stated to him, that it was so highly improper for me to have the affair of a ground-work of war, and so, I, of course, felt it my duty, as soon as practicable, to hasten to inform Mr. Canning, that I had been instructed, for the purpose of instituting, whatever the case may be, to ascertain, and, if, it was found, which was the case, to remonstrate, and, if, it should be found, which was the case, to demand, satisfaction, and, if, it should be found, which was the case, to demand, satisfaction, and, if, it should be found, which was the case, to demand, satisfaction