

His Britannic Majesty's Ship

Townsend Lynchaven Bay 23^d Sept 1814

Sir, It is with much regret I find myself called upon to request your attention to the Statement Enclosed, of a very unprovoked outrage committed by some persons at Savannah against a Flag of Truce sent to the shore from H. B. Magr. Ship Lacedaemonian. As an interference, after some time, was made by the Military to prevent all further proceeding, it would appear that the act alluded to was unauthorised by the People of power in the Town: but as no steps were taken to punish the offending Parties although they were perfectly conspicuous and well known. I have thought proper to bring the circumstance to your notice, not doubting but that you will cause proper measures to be pursued towards those persons who were aiding and abetting in this unwarrantable conduct.

I take this opportunity of remarking that although the United States are indebted to England some thousands of prisoners the Agent at Savannah refused to release, on account or exchange, a single person; if this system is persisted in, it must soon put a final stop to all exchanges.

The Honourable
James Monroe
Secretary of State of the
United States No. 4th

I have the honor to be
Yours Obedt. Servant
J. Cochran

Townsend at Sea off the
Chesapeake 24th Sept. 1814

Sir I have to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters of the 9th and 30th of August and 6th and 1st Instant, together with the several Returns that accompanied them. I have to call your attention to my public order directing that all Letters sent to me should be accompanied by a copy of the same to the Secretary of State.