

5274

**AMISTAD CASE.**—This case, which is to come before the Supreme Court of the nation, during next month, for a final adjudication, is already in its preliminaries, before the lower house in Congress. It came before the House of Representatives by a resolution presented by the Hon. John Q. Adams, asking for the appointment of a committee, with power to send for persons and papers, to ascertain whether the document transmitted by the President during last session, had not been falsified, and made to differ from the manuscript; if so, to ascertain by whom the falsification was made.

Mr. Adams states his immediate object to be, the justification of the President, and the translator of the Department of State, and then to ascertain by whom such a fraud was committed upon the House of Representatives and upon the country.

He quotes Judge Jay's criticism at large upon this fraud, and upon the two Spanish terms *Ladinos* and *Bozals*, paying Judge Jay at the same time, great deference but not greater than he is entitled to. If the term *Ladinos* is applicable to these Africans, then Montez and Ruez by the laws of Spain, had a right to ship them from Havana to the place to which they were destined. If the term *Bozals* applies to them, they were freemen, and could not be made slaves, and they, Montez and Ruez were doing it in violation of the laws of Spain, and of the treaty of Spain with Great Britain.

Upon the application of these terms, to these Africans will depend their release, or their delivery up to the Spanish authorities. The object of Mr. Adams' committee, is, to ferret out the fraud, supposed to have been perpetrated at Havana, in applying to these men the wrong term, and to ascertain, and prove, if possible, that they are *Bozals*, and therefore free, and to be released. They have been proved to be *Bozals* by the language they speak, and from their own showing, as well as from Dr. Madden's testimony, who was then, just from Havana, and knowing about this case. Mr. Adams is just the man, he will leave no stone unturned, and we are glad to see the favorable disposition of the House, in adopting the resolution by a large majority.

Our readers may expect from our correspondent, the facts in the progress of this case, when it shall come on.