

SUPPRESSION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE ON THE COAST OF
AFRICA.

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

IN ANSWER

To a resolution of the House calling for copies of instructions given the commanding officers of the squadron, for the suppression of the slave-trade on the African coast, &c.; and copies of instructions given by the British Government to their squadron.

MAY 22, 1844.

Read, and laid upon the table.

To the House of Representatives of the United States :

In answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 3d of January last, requesting the President of the United States "to cause to be communicated to that House copies of all the instructions given to the commanding officers of the squadron, stipulated by the treaty with Great Britain of the 9th of August, 1842, to be kept on the coast of Africa for the suppression of the slave-trade;" and "also, copies of the instructions given by the British Government to their squadron, stipulated by the same treaty, if such instructions have been communicated to this Government," I have to inform the House of Representatives that, in my opinion, it would be incompatible with the public interests to communicate to that body, at this time, copies of the instructions referred to.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, *May* 18, 1844.

Blair & Rives, printers.