

QUINTUPLE TREATY—AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

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MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

*In reply to a resolution of the House of Representatives, calling for a copy of the quintuple treaty between the five principal Powers of Europe, for the suppression of the African slave trade, &c.*

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JUNE 21, 1842.

Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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*To the House of Representatives :*

A resolution of the House of Representatives of the 13th instant has been communicated to me, requesting, "so far as may be compatible with the public interest, a copy of the quintuple treaty between the five principal Powers of Europe, for the suppression of the African slave trade; and, also, copies of any remonstrance or protest addressed by Lewis Cass, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States at the Court of France, to that Government, against the ratification by France of the said treaty; and of all correspondence between the Governments of the United States and of France; and of all communications from the said Lewis Cass to his own Government, and from this Government to him, relating thereto."

In answer to this request, I have to say that the treaty mentioned therein has not been officially communicated to the Government of the United States, and no authentic copy of it, therefore, can be furnished. In regard to the other papers requested, although it is my hope and expectation that it will be proper and convenient, at an early day, to lay them before Congress, together with others connected with the same subjects, yet, in my opinion, a communication of them to the House of Representatives, at this time, would not be compatible with the public interest.

JOHN TYLER.

WASHINGTON, June 20, 1842.