

Chapter 1 : Henry John Temple, Viscount Palmerston ()

get this from a library! slave trade, and lord palmerston's bill (classic reprint).. [bernardo de sa noqueira de figueiredo].

We have no slaves at home –” Then why abroad? Slaves cannot breathe in England; if their lungs Receive our air, that moment they are free. They touch our country, and their shackles fall. And jealous of the blessing. Spread it then, And let it circulate through every vein. Passed by the local Legislative Assembly , it was the first legislation to outlaw the slave trade in a part of the British Empire. Abolitionist Henry Brougham realized that trading would continue and as a new MP successfully introduced the Slave Trade Felony Act which at last made slave trading criminal throughout the empire. It did suppress the slave trade, but did not stop it entirely. Between and , the West Africa Squadron captured 1, slave ships and freed , Africans. During the Christmas holiday of , a large-scale slave revolt in Jamaica, known as the Baptist War , broke out. It was organised originally as a peaceful strike by the Baptist minister Samuel Sharpe. The rebellion was suppressed by the militia of the Jamaican plantocracy and the British garrison ten days later in early . Because of the loss of property and life in the rebellion, the British Parliament held two inquiries. The results of these inquiries contributed greatly to the abolition of slavery with the Slavery Abolition Act . In practical terms, only slaves below the age of six were freed in the colonies. Former slaves over the age of six were redesignated as "apprentices", and their servitude was abolished in two stages: The amount of money to be spent on the compensation claims was set at "the Sum of Twenty Million Pounds Sterling". The money was not paid back until "Point de six ans" "Not six years. No six years" , drowning out the voice of the Governor. Peaceful protests continued until a resolution to abolish apprenticeship was passed and de facto freedom was achieved. Full emancipation for all was legally granted ahead of schedule on 1 August . Papers relating to the charges were lost when the Forerunner was wrecked off Madeira in October . In the absence of the papers, the English courts refused to proceed with the prosecution. This film, August A Day in the Life of a People, tells of six significant events in African-American history that happened on the same date, August

Get this from a library! The slave trade and Lord Palmerston's bill. [Bernardo de Saïj Nogueira de Figueiredo Saïj da Bandeira, marquÃs de].

Print this page Economic importance The Slave Trade Abolition Act of 1807, which prohibited the trading of Africans into slavery in the West Indies, was one of the most momentous laws ever passed by the British parliament. It took abolitionists nearly 20 years of pressure on parliament to secure this victory, but in the end it came with remarkable speed. This was partly because, by 1807, moral repugnance at British involvement in the continuing Atlantic slave trade had become almost universal, both outside and inside parliament. Member of Parliament Lord Mahon, making his maiden speech in favour of the abolition bill in the key House of Commons debate early in 1807, declared that: The strength of this feeling was shown by the size of the majority for abolition votes for 16 against in the ensuing division, which ended any doubts that the abolition bill would soon become law. Yet just over half a century earlier, in the uncompromising language of the act that ended the slave trading monopoly of the Royal African Company, parliament had asserted that: If its barbaric nature was sometimes recognised, its continuance was nevertheless considered essential to the success of the prevailing economic system. Yet with the backing of the long-serving premier William Pitt the Younger, the powerful Commons advocacy of William Wilberforce, and the enthusiastic endorsement of a popular petitioning campaign, abolition seemed to be unstoppable by the late 18th century. In the following year, a compromise was reached in the Commons whereby the trade was to be prohibited from 1800. These were partial measures which only slightly improved the horrific conditions experienced during the notorious middle passage. The House of Lords stalled the motion pending its own inquiry, which was eventually allowed to lapse because of the wars against revolutionary France. Wilberforce introduced an abolition motion in most subsequent sessions, and these were occasionally lost by only narrow margins, including by only four votes in 1799, when several supporters had deserted the chamber for the pleasures of the opera house. A conservative parliament was not the only reason abolition took so long to achieve. This comprised planters with estates in the British islands notably Jamaica, and merchants trading with Africa and the Caribbean, as well as associated shipbuilders, manufacturers and financiers. The group had a central London committee, which was adept at counter-petitioning, as well as representatives in the Commons such as the MPs for Bristol, Liverpool and London. These were partial measures, which by reducing shipboard overcrowding only slightly improved the horrific conditions experienced during the notorious middle passage the journey between West Africa and the Caribbean. Building on the writings of the influential economist and adviser James Stephen, the new government secured an act to prevent British traders in British or foreign vessels from shipping Africans to foreign colonies or to newly conquered islands such as Trinidad, which it was thought might be returned to France or Spain after the Napoleonic wars. The surprisingly easy passage of the bill was mainly due to the favourable climate of public opinion and the momentum given to the cause by the government. Stephen, in a briefing paper, asked: This, following on from the parliamentary resolutions in favour of abolition that Grenville and the ailing Fox obtained in June 1793, was exactly what Grenville did in February when he personally managed the passage of the bill through the Lords. He refused to listen to calls for further inquiry, even when they came from such formidable figures as the duke of Clarence the future William IV. The surprisingly easy passage of the bill through the Commons, where no pro-abolition petitions needed to be presented, was partly due to the relative weakness of the West India lobby, but mainly to the favourable climate of public opinion and the momentum given to the cause by the government. Top Influencing the government The Slave Trade Abolition Act shows how critical it was - and still is - for any external pressure group to have the support of government ministers. Campaigning sometimes involves raising an issue in parliament in order to put indirect pressure on a government department. This bill has not yet become law, although in October the government indicated that it would accept its proposals for applying minimal nutritional standards for school meals and ending the sale of junk food in vending machines. These examples illustrate that campaigning, often by convincing a local or sympathetic MP, sometimes involves raising an issue in parliament to put indirect

pressure on a government department. This is usually true, for instance, with environmental issues. Other campaign techniques include direct electoral challenges, such as independent candidates standing on issues like opposition to hospital closures, and the targeting of vulnerable MPs, for example by the anti-war candidate George Galloway who was able to defeat Oona King at the general election in because her support for the invasion of Iraq had damaged her popularity. The House of Lords can block acts, but this can be overcome if the ruling party in the Commons is determined to enforce parliamentary acts. This effectively vetoes the decision of the Lords. Top The internet and current campaigning The abolitionists pioneered techniques such as circulating printed materials, presenting evidence before inquiries and promoting petitions. These ways of lobbying are still in use today. The effectiveness of a national apology and the payment of reparations to compensate for the enslavement of African people could benefit from unofficial referendums. In many ways, the internet replicates this type of networking effectively, and provides the potential for gauging public opinion through chatrooms and online opinion polls. Most MPs now have websites and welcome email communications, and it is still possible for anyone to petition the Commons, as long as they follow the rules. Other questions, such as the effectiveness of a national apology and the payment of reparations to compensate for the enslavement of African people, together with the more practical issues of African debt cancellation and ending contemporary forms of slavery and trafficking, could benefit from unofficial referendums. These issues all arise from the evolving public debate about the legacy of the British slave trade. But, at the time of writing, controversy is currently centred on the likely government decision to hold a slavery memorial day on 25 March , the th anniversary of the date on which the Slave Trade Abolition Act was given royal assent. The internet offers enormous scope for exploring this complex debate and influencing it.

Chapter 3 : The Act and its effects: The Abolition of Slavery Project

The Slave Trade and Lord Palmerston's Bill [Bernardo De Sa Nogueira Sa Da Bandeira] on calendrierdelascience.com
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The Act of Parliament to abolish the British slave trade, passed on 25 March, was the culmination of one of the first and most successful public campaigns in history. The tentative efforts under Elizabeth I to break into the foreign monopolies on lucrative overseas trade whetted the appetite for more. But it was the military and political turmoil in Europe in the early 17th century which allowed the English to establish their own trading systems to Africa and the Americas. Above all, it was the pull of exotic commodities and riches which proved irresistible. At first, Europeans were not drawn to Africa for slaves, although they did occasionally acquire them. The continent was more attractive to the early pioneering settlers for its valuable commodities – especially gold. The early trading companies focused on gold, dyes, timbers, ivory and hides. What transformed everything was the development of colonies in the Americas. The introduction of plantations, especially those growing sugar, led to the extensive use of African slave labour. In time some 70 per cent of all enslaved Africans shipped across the Atlantic were destined to work in the sugar fields. Pioneered by the Spaniards and perfected by the Dutch, sugar plantations were eagerly adopted by the English from the start. Sugar though was not the only crop. In the North American colonies the development of the tobacco industry – a crop acquired from local Indians – also led to the use of enslaved African labour. Trading with Africa The plantations in the Americas created a rush of traders to the African coast. Trade there expanded enormously and became a source of great European rivalry and strategic positioning. The initial ad hoc ventures gave way to licensed companies, chartered and monitored from London. A string of major trading posts were developed on the West African coast. The major forts and castles were designed more to protect gold and local officials, rather than to house enslaved Africans waiting for the slave ships. Most captured Africans were herded on board ships from beaches, from barracoons on the shore, from river stations, or were rowed out to the waiting vessels. The Africa trade quickly emerged as a massive and lucrative form of international trade. By its most important branch was the dispatch of enslaved Africans across the Atlantic. But even that simple assertion does an injustice to its complexity. The outbound slave ships to Africa were packed with British goods, such as metal goods, firearms, textiles and wines for exchange for human cargo. Vessels returning from the colonies heading to their home port were filled with plantation produce. Here was a trading network on an integrated international scale, lubricated by slavery, and all approved, regulated and monitored by Parliament. Dozens of Acts were passed specifically to encourage, regulate and monitor the trade in Africans. Legislation relating to the more personal and private aspects of the slave trade, brought its consequences directly into the Parliamentary arena. Parliament and commerce In the years after the Restoration in 1660, the wider economic importance of the English sugar trade became more obvious. There were also international economic pressures. On 8 April 1675, West Indian planters presented their arguments to the House of Lords for a stronger defence against their commercial and political rivals. So, too, did the industries which provided goods for exchange in Africa, equipped the slave plantations of the Americas, and processed and sold the imported slave grown produce. Duties and taxes raised by Parliament became critical sources of income. As a result, complex rules came to govern trade between England, Europe and the wider world. Major ports and docks flourished in London, Bristol and Liverpool but the different levels of customs duties encouraged illicit imports which developed into a remarkable smuggling industry. To prevent such fiscal abuses, the state developed powers of scrutiny and punishment. Shopkeepers and tradesmen complained about such powers in petitions. Sugar, tea and coffee During the 17th and 18th centuries tobacco, but above all sugar, transformed British life. Britons developed their famous sweet tooth because their drinks – tea, coffee and chocolate, all naturally bitter – needed to be sweetened with sugar. They were also celebrated for the profusion of their puddings and desserts. At the heart of this was slave-grown sugar. This led to a massive proliferation of shops across Britain, whose main source of income was goods from the West Indies Parliament regulates the Africa trade The growing

trade with Africa soon came under the gaze of Parliament. Many traders and merchants did not want regulation and duties applied to the Africa trade. They expressed themselves through pamphlets and petitions to Parliament. As the latter became involved in the regulation of the trade, it discovered a lot more about it. He was educated in London and established himself in Westminster, buying a shop on Charles Street. Olaudah Equiano Olaudah Equiano was an active opponent of the slave trade. He lived and worked in London for several periods of his life. He was employed by the British government to work on the Sierra Leone settlement scheme, which was established to repatriate former enslaved Africans living in London. Equiano was a leading member of the black community, working with Granville Sharp on legal cases involving Africans fighting to establish their rights to freedom in Britain. His autobiography was published in *Was slavery legal in England? Could slaves be removed from the country against their wishes? What was to be done about the maltreatment of black people?* Legal battles All these questions and more surfaced in legal battles from the mid 18th century onwards. The Somerset case ruled that slavery was illegal in England, calling into question the right of slave owners to hold jurisdiction over slaves brought to England. In the Zong case the owners of a British slave ship sought compensation for the loss of cargo, when over a hundred enslaved Africans were thrown overboard. Both these landmark cases had been backed by the theologian, Granville Sharp, who became a key member of the abolitionist movement. Defeat in North America With the British defeat in the war in North America in slavery was set in a different context. Slavery had been at the heart of that conflict, and many of the defeated British came home with former slaves. The problem of the black poor There was also the problem of the black poor in London in the mid 18th century and discussion about what to do about them. This resulted in the Sierra Leone Scheme, designed with government backing to relocate them to Africa. It proved disastrous and gave focus to the issue of slavery and the slave trade. Boycotting slave-grown sugar The boycott of slave-grown sugar became an important feature of the abolition campaign. Refusing to buy sugar for the home, and preventing its domestic use, emerged as a contribution by women to the campaign. The birth of the formal abolition campaign At the time of these events a small band led by William Wilberforce in Parliament and by Thomas Clarkson in the country as a whole, launched the formal campaign to abolish the slave trade. Wilberforce would become the Parliamentary mouthpiece for the campaign. During his research he learned about, and was horrified by, the transatlantic slave trade. It was then that he decided that something should be done. Within a year Clarkson had given up plans to enter the church and had decided to devote himself full time to the cause. In Clarkson became one of the original 12 members of the London Committee, which also included Granville Sharp and was part of the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade. As the only Committee member without business commitments, Clarkson researched for evidence that could be laid before Parliament, and also promoted the cause nationwide. He had earlier met many Quakers who were campaigning for abolition and when he travelled to all the major British ports, as well as cities and towns around Britain, Clarkson was supported by local Quaker groups. Petitioning Parliament In 1788, a number of petitions in favour of the abolition of the slave trade were received by Parliament. However, the powerful federation of planters, merchants, manufacturers and ship owners – all central to the slave trade – put up a dogged rearguard action against abolition in both the Commons and Lords. Both sides presented petitions to both Houses of Parliament. Those petitioning against the trade were encouraged by Thomas Clarkson. Both sides were using a means of communicating with Parliament that had a long history, but was now on a scale not seen before. The petitions show that a time when the right to vote was very restricted, the petitioning movement gave many excluded from the electoral process an opportunity to communicate with Parliament. The first parliamentary debates The MP for Hull, William Wilberforce, had met the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade and, with the encouragement of William Pitt, the Prime Minister, agreed to raise their cause in Parliament. In February the prime minister commissioned a report on the slave trade and the effects and consequences for British commerce. The report was undertaken by the Privy Council committee for trade and foreign plantations. This was followed by a statement in the Commons by William Pitt on 5 May. Following a debate, which revealed divided opinion, the motion was agreed. Dolben introduced a Bill on 21 May to regulate the numbers of enslaved Africans carried from Africa to the West Indies. Thomas Clarkson, a member of the London Committee of the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade, drew up a

plan of the Brooks slave ship, graphically illustrating the 16 inches 40cm allocated to each person. This plan was sent to every member of the Commons and Lords by the London Committee, who were lobbying for further debate. It was also distributed around the country where it had an immediate impact. Wilberforce makes the case The movement to abolish the slave trade drew on a remarkably wide range of activities, including collecting signatures on petitions, female activism, and distribution of print and graphic images. It was, however, at its heart, a parliamentary campaign, headed by William Wilberforce. A measure of his success was the fact that by abolition was an issue entrenched in Parliament. However, it faced a protracted and difficult struggle. Wilberforce was not formally involved until he was asked by his close friend, the newly-elected Prime Minister, William Pitt, to become the parliamentary spokesman for the campaign in The London Committee, part of the Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade, made occasional contact with Wilberforce from October , mainly to ask him to raise the issue in debates. He formally joined the Committee in and became their spokesman in the House of Commons. Pitt set up an enquiry into the slave trade in , and laid its report before the Commons in April The following month, Wilberforce pushed for a committee to consider the anti-slave trade petitions that had been presented to the House. He made a long speech emphasising the harsh realities of the slave trade. Although it was eventually decided to postpone more discussion until the following parliamentary session, Wilberforce had done enough to secure the appointment of a select committee to consider the matter further. The evidence Perhaps the most decisive and influential blow against the slave trade was the evidence presented to various enquiries from men who knew the slave ships and plantations at first hand. What these committee reports told of African suffering had a profound impact.

Chapter 4 : The Slave Trade, and Lord Palmerston's Bill

Excerpt from The Slave Trade, and Lord Palmerston's Bill The noble Lord made use in his speeches of expressions highly injurious to Portugal and her government, and some of his colleagues followed his example.

THE refusal of the Portuguese Government to concur in measures necessary to stop the Slave-trade, extensively carried on under the flag of Portugal—although bound by a convention concluded with England in to adopt such measures—was the alleged ground of the Slave-trade Suppression Bill, passed at the close of the last session of Parliament. Some of our readers may recollect that we questioned both the justice and policy of that measure. Moreover, it seemed undignified in England to menace Portugal with proceedings which she would never venture to hint. By those, however, with whom these considerations had most weight, no doubt was entertained, that in the conduct of this negotiation Great Britain was represented as moving straight to the accomplishment of her philanthropic purpose—Portugal as shuffling out of promises, and violating treaties with shameless perfidy. The letters which passed are very numerous, and deal much in details. The Ambassador, we may assume, was fully instructed, and even on secondary points acted with the entire approbation of his prin. We find copies of numerous letters which passed between them in and An important difference arose on the question of declaring slave-trading piracy. The Portuguese Minister was extremely repugnant to this article of the treaty: It appears that on other points there was slight disagreement, and that were this conceded the treaty might be concluded. This charge would be incredible without very strong and direct proof. Into the detailed examination of the numerous questions involved in the relations between Portugal and England, and brought under review by the Portuguese statesman, we need not enter ; we shall only remark that they throw doubt upon some assertions from Downing Street to which implicit credence is generally given in this country. But the double-dealing of the English Ambassador is exposed by the publication of his own letters. He wrote thus " Lisbon, Sunday night. I herewith send you also the annexes A and B, with the grammatical corrections rendered evident on consideration, and the addition Of the substance of your amendment in the body of the treaty. I think you can at once put the two annexes in question in course of copying. The third, C, must look over again with you. If you like to give me half-an-hour to-morrow afternoon, I will come down with it at your time ; I am sure that half-an-hour will be enough to set your people at work ; and I should be extremely glad to be able to report something positive by this mail, as Parliament may again take up the Slave-trade question with renewed vigour after the holidays, which they have been enjoying. I have desired Craven to make the alterations of dominions in possessions. There are still some sheets of Portuguese to be sent me. This, in short, strikes me as the outline of the best case to make out ;: No denial of the authenticity of this note has been put forth. It is impossible to believe it a forgery ; and if genuine, in what a light does it place the diplomacy of the English Government! It will therefore be impossible, should it be attempted, to show that this part of the treaty was at any time deemed unimportant. There are three parties especially affected by these transactions. This nobleman must be presumed to have acted in compliance with his instructions ; he is therefore only implicated as the agent in a discreditable affair. But he ought, in the performance of the duty which every public officer owes to his country, to have refused conperation in a political fraud. The Foreign Secretary is responsible for the conduct of his Envoy. Manifestly that measure was founded on fraud, and passed in ignorance of facts concealed by the Foreign Secretary. Should this functionary show his face in the next session of Parliament, how will he answer for the "most confidential" note, and the continuance of its ostensible author at Lisbon? The Portfolio affair, though bad enough in its way, was nothing to this. The national honour has been compromised. The Suppression Bill exhibited the British Government in the character of a bully-sit now stands forth a cheat. The fraud was twofold. First, the Portuguese Minister was led to suppose that the zeal of Downing Street was but a sham, and he was told " under the rose," how he might aid in the deception with the most advantage. Secondly, the Abolitionists in England were "humbugged" with the notion that Government had sincerely endeavoured to obtain a satisfactory treaty with Portugal. It was most important to the Whig Ministers that the Anti-Slavery party should be conciliated and duped ; and the deceit has met with considerable success. Few were then aware that

the Portuguese Government had been encouraged by the English Minister in conduct adduced as justification of that high-handed and very questionable stretch of power.

Chapter 5 : Full text of "The slave trade and Lord Palmerston's bill"

The Slave Trade in Africa in Principally Carried on for the Supply of Turkey, Egypt, Persia and Zanzibar by Etienne Felix Berlioux Enquiry Into the Validity of the British Claim to a Right of Visitation Search of American Vessels Suspected to Be Engaged in the African Slave-Trade by Henry Wheaton.

His family derived their title from the Peerage of Ireland , although the 3rd Viscount would almost never visit Ireland. Whilst in Italy Palmerston acquired an Italian tutor, who taught him to speak and write fluent Italian. He was educated at Harrow School – Admiral Sir Augustus Clifford , 1st Bt. Stewart wrote to a friend, saying of Palmerston: Indeed, I cannot say that I have ever seen a more faultless character at this time of life, or one possessed of more amiable dispositions". The young 3rd Lord Palmerston also inherited a vast country estate in the north of County Sligo in the west of Ireland. He later built Classiebawn Castle on this estate. This was declined, although he was allowed to take the separate College examinations, where he obtained first-class honours. The Danes refused to comply and so Copenhagen was bombarded. Palmerston justified the attack by peroration with reference to the ambitions of Napoleon to take control of the Danish fleet: It is the law of self-preservation that England appeals for the justification of her proceedings. It is admitted by the honourable gentleman and his supporters, that if Denmark had evidenced any hostility towards this country, then we should have been justified in measures of retaliation Denmark coerced into hostility stands in the same position as Denmark voluntarily hostile, when the law of self-preservation comes into play Does anyone believe that Buonaparte will be restrained by any considerations of justice from acting towards Denmark as he has done towards other countries? England, according to that law of self-preservation which is a fundamental principle of the law of nations, is justified in securing, and therefore enforcing, from Denmark a neutrality which France would by compulsion have converted into an active hostility. Palmerston preferred the office of Secretary at War, charged exclusively with the financial business of the army. Without a seat in the cabinet until , he remained in the latter post for 20 years. However, the bullet only grazed his back and the wound was slight. After Palmerston learned that Davies was mad, he paid for his legal defence at the trial Davies was sent to Bedlam. The more liberal wing of the Tory government made some ground, with George Canning becoming Foreign Secretary and Leader of the House of Commons , William Huskisson advocating and applying the doctrines of free trade, and Catholic emancipation emerging as an open question. Although Palmerston was not in the Cabinet, he cordially supported the measures of Canning and his friends. The more conservative Tories, including Sir Robert Peel , withdrew their support, and an alliance was formed between the liberal members of the late ministry and the Whigs. The post of Chancellor of the Exchequer was offered to Palmerston, who accepted it, but this appointment was frustrated by some intrigue between the King and John Charles Herries. Palmerston remained Secretary at War, though he gained a seat in the cabinet for the first time. The Canning administration ended after only four months on the death of the Prime Minister, and was followed by the ministry of Lord Goderich , which barely survived the year. However, a dispute between Wellington and Huskisson over the issue of parliamentary representation for Manchester and Birmingham led to the resignation of Huskisson and his allies, including Palmerston. In the spring of , after more than twenty years continuously in office, Palmerston found himself in opposition. On 26 February Palmerston delivered a speech in favour of Catholic Emancipation. He felt that it was unseemly to relieve the "imaginary grievances" of the Dissenters from the established church while at the same time "real afflictions pressed upon the Catholics" of Great Britain. Statue of Lord Palmerston in Southampton Following his move to opposition, Palmerston appears to have focused closely on foreign policy. He had already urged Wellington into active interference in the Greek War of Independence , and he had made several visits to Paris , where he foresaw with great accuracy the impending overthrow of the Bourbons. On 1 June he made his first great speech on foreign affairs. Lord Palmerston was no orator; his language was unstudied, and his delivery somewhat embarrassed; but generally he found the words to say the right thing at the right time, and to address the House of Commons in the language best adapted to the capacity and the temper of his audience. This can be said to be the point in , when his party allegiance changed. Basically, Palmerston was responsible for the whole of

British foreign policy from the time of the French and Belgian Revolutions of until December His abrasive style earned him the nickname "Lord Pumice Stone", and his manner of dealing with foreign governments who crossed him was the original "gunboat diplomacy". Crises of [edit] The revolutions of gave a jolt to the settled European system that had been created in 1815. The United Kingdom of the Netherlands was rent in half by the Belgian Revolution, the Kingdom of Portugal was the scene of civil war, and the Spanish were about to place an infant princess on the throne. Poland was in arms against the Russian Empire, while the northern powers Russia, Prussia, and Austria formed a closer alliance that seemed to threaten the peace and liberties of Europe. Polish exiles called on Britain to intervene against Russia during the November Uprising of 1830. He had no grievance against Russia and while he privately sympathized with the Polish cause, in his role as foreign minister he rejected Polish demands. With serious trouble simultaneously taking place in Belgium and Italy, and lesser issues in Greece and Portugal, he sought to de-escalate European tensions rather than aggravate them. He therefore focused chiefly on achieving a peaceful settlement of the crisis in Belgium. The London Conference of 1830-1 was called to address this question. The British solution involved the independence of Belgium, which Palmerston believed would greatly contribute to the security of Britain, but any solution was not straightforward. The British policy was a close alliance with France, but one subject to the balance of power on the Continent, and in particular the preservation of Belgium. If the northern powers supported William I by force, they would encounter the resistance of France and Britain united in arms. If France sought to annex Belgium, it would forfeit the British alliance and find herself opposed by the whole of Europe. In the end the British policy prevailed. Their positions were under some pressure from their absolutist kinsmen, Dom Miguel of Portugal and Don Carlos of Spain, who were the closest males in the lines of succession. Palmerston conceived and executed the plan of a quadruple alliance of the constitutional states of the West to serve as a counterpoise to the northern alliance. A treaty for the pacification of the Peninsula was signed in London on 22 April and, although the struggle was somewhat prolonged in Spain, it accomplished its objective. France had been a reluctant party to the treaty, and never executed her role in it with much zeal. Louis Philippe was accused of secretly favouring the Carlists 1830-1 the supporters of Don Carlos 1830-1 and he rejected direct interference in Spain. It is probable that the hesitation of the French court on this question was one of the causes of the enduring personal hostility Palmerston showed towards the French King thereafter, though that sentiment may well have arisen earlier. Although Palmerston wrote in June that Paris was "the pivot of my foreign policy", the differences between the two countries grew into a constant but sterile rivalry that brought benefit to neither. Balkans and Near East: During the Greek War of Independence he had energetically supported the Greek cause and backed the Treaty of Constantinople that gave Greece its independence. However, from the defence of the Ottoman Empire became one of the cardinal objects of his policy. He believed in the regeneration of Turkey. He regarded the maintenance of the authority of the Sublime Porte as the chief barrier against both these developments. Despite his popular reputation he was hesitant in about aiding the Sultan of Turkey, who was under threat from Muhammad Ali, the pasha of Egypt. Palmerston held that "if we can procure for it ten years of peace under the joint protection of the five Powers, and if those years are profitably employed in reorganizing the internal system of the empire, there is no reason whatever why it should not become again a respectable Power" and challenged the [metaphor] that an old country, such as Turkey should be in such disrepair as would be warranted by the comparison: Lord Ponsonby, the British ambassador at Constantinople, vehemently urged the British government to intervene. Having closer ties to the pasha than most, France refused to be a party to coercive measures against him despite having signed the note in the previous year. This measure was taken with great hesitation, and strong opposition on the part of several members of the cabinet. Palmerston forced the measure through in part by declaring in a letter to the Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, that he would resign from the ministry if his policy were not adopted. The London Convention granted Muhammad Ali hereditary rule in Egypt in return for withdrawal from Syria and Lebanon, but was rejected by the pasha. Forcing free trade [edit] British bombardment of Canton from the surrounding heights, May 1842 China had sealed itself off from the world, permitting only limited trade under the Canton System and allowing no diplomatic contact. Palmerston saw this as an affront to his free trade principles, and demanded reform, sending Lord Napier to negotiate in 1842. China refused, and interdicted the

British traders bringing in opium from India illegally. It was later exchanged for the island of Hong Kong. Under the Treaty of Nanjing, China paid an indemnity and opened five treaty ports to world trade. Palmerston thus achieved his main goal of opening China to trade, although his critics focused on the immorality of the opium trade. This made him very popular among the ordinary people of Britain, but his passion, propensity to act through personal animosity, and imperious language made him seem dangerous and destabilising in the eyes of the Queen and his more conservative colleagues in government. Meanwhile he manipulated information and public opinion to enhance his control of his department, including controlling communications within the office and to other officials. He leaked secrets to the press, published selected documents, and released letters to give himself more control and more publicity, all the while stirring up British nationalism. He also owned Broadlands at Romsey in Hampshire.

Opposition: Palmerston had adopted the opinion that peace with France was not to be relied on, and indeed that war between the two countries was sooner or later inevitable. Aberdeen and Guizot inaugurated a different policy: During the administration of Sir Robert Peel, Palmerston led a retired life, but he attacked with characteristic bitterness the Webster-Ashburton Treaty with the United States. Much as he criticised it, the treaty successfully closed the border questions with which Palmerston had long been concerned. A few months later, however, the Whigs returned to power and Palmerston to the Foreign Office.

July Affair of the Spanish Marriages Lord Palmerston, c. They availed themselves of a dispatch in which he had put forward the name of a Coburg prince as a candidate for the hand of the young queen of Spain as a justification for a departure from the engagements entered into between Guizot and Lord Aberdeen. However little the conduct of the French government in this transaction of the Spanish marriages can be vindicated, it is certain that it originated in the belief that in Palmerston France had a restless and subtle enemy. The efforts of the British minister to defeat the French marriages of the Spanish princesses, by an appeal to the Treaty of Utrecht and the other powers of Europe, were wholly unsuccessful; France won the game, though with no small loss of honourable reputation. Brown argues that as foreign secretary from to and subsequently as prime minister, Palmerston sought to maintain the balance of power in Europe, sometimes even aligning with France to do so. Palmerston sympathised openly with the revolutionary party abroad. In particular, he was a strong advocate of national self-determination, and stood firmly on the side of constitutional liberties on the Continent. Despite this, he was bitterly opposed to Irish independence, being very opposed to the Young Ireland movement. Italian independence[edit] No state was regarded by him with more aversion than Austria. Yet, his opposition to Austria was chiefly based upon her occupation of northeastern Italy and her Italian policy. Palmerston maintained that the existence of Austria as a great power north of the Alps was an essential element in the system of Europe. Antipathies and sympathies had a large share in the political views of Palmerston, and his sympathies had ever been passionately awakened by the cause of Italian independence. He supported the Sicilians against the King of Naples, and even allowed arms to be sent them from the arsenal at Woolwich. Although he had endeavoured to restrain the King of Sardinia from his rash attack on the superior forces of Austria, he obtained for him a reduction of the penalty of defeat. Austria, weakened by the revolution, sent an envoy to London to request the mediation of Britain, based on a large cession of Italian territory.

Chapter 6 : Henry John Temple, 3rd Viscount Palmerston - Wikipedia

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More Options The final text of the slave trade provision was designed to disguise what the Convention had done. Moreover, it reflected the assumption, held by almost everyone at the Convention, that the Deep South would grow faster than the rest of the nation, and that by the states that most wanted to continue the trade would have enough political power, and enough allies, to prevent an end to it. Ending the trade would require that a bill pass both houses of Congress and be signed by the president. That process would give the supporters of the trade three opportunities to stop such a bill. The slave trade provision was a significant factor in the debates over ratification, but its impact was complicated. Opponents of the Constitution, in both the North and the South, roundly condemned the clause. Northern supporters of the Constitution were at a rhetorical disadvantage in this debate, but they nevertheless had to engage the issue. They developed two tactics. The first, best put forth by James Wilson of Pennsylvania, was intellectually dishonest but politically shrewd. He argued that the slave trade clause would in fact allow for the end of slavery itself. In speeches he made the subtle shift from the "trade" to slavery, and since most of his listeners were not as legally sophisticated as Wilson, he was able to fudge the issue. Thus, Wilson told the Pennsylvania ratifying convention that after "the lapse of a few years Congress will have power to exterminate slavery from within our borders. More likely, he simply made this argument to win support for the Constitution. Supporters in Massachusetts and New Hampshire made similar arguments. In New Hampshire, a supporter of the Constitution also argued that the slave trade clause gave Congress the power to end slavery. A more sophisticated response to the trade was to note that, without the Constitution, the states could keep the trade open indefinitely because the Congress under the Articles of Confederation had no power to regulate commerce, but under the Constitution it would be possible, in just twenty years, to end the international slave trade. These arguments led northerners to believe that the Constitution required an end to the trade after , when in fact it did not. Upper South supporters of the Constitution, such as James Madison, also made the argument that a ban on the trade was impossible under the Articles, and thus the Constitution, even if imperfect, was still a good bargain. In summing up the entire Constitution, Pinckney, who had been one of the ablest defenders of slavery at the Convention, proudly told the South Carolina House of Representatives: We would have made better if we could; but on the whole, I do not think them bad.

Chapter 7 : Slavery Abolition Act - Wikipedia

lord palmerston and the portuguese slave-trade. THE refusal of the Portuguese Government to concur in measures necessary to stop the Slave-trade, extensively carried on under the flag of Portugal"although bound by a convention concluded with England in to adopt such measures"was the alleged ground of the Slave-trade Suppression Bill.

Palmerston was educated privately by a series of tutors before attending Harrow between and . Thereafter he was admitted to Edinburgh University where he studied between and , moving to St. It was not until his fourth electoral attempt that he was finally returned as an MP, for Newport on the isle of Wight. The seat was the property of Sir Leonard Holmes who made it a condition of the seat that Palmerston should never go there. It was well known that Palmerston had affairs with Lady Jersey and Princess Dorothy de Lieven before he began his affair with Lady Cowper in ; when her husband died in , the pair finally married. This increased the cost of the army at a time when complaints were being made about the lack of economies being made by reducing the army at the end of the French Wars. On 1 April Palmerston was shot and wounded by Lieutenant Davis, an ex-officer who had a grievance over his pension: However, in Charles Smith was not so fortunate: Palmerston refused to intervene on the grounds that it was not right to use private influence to affect the due process of law. It was not long afterwards that he began to take a more direct interest in foreign affairs, speaking on the Franco-Spanish problems that had recently arisen. In August George Canning promised that Palmerston should have the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer; he refused because he did not want to have to pay the cost of standing for re-election although he did agree to accept the post in the new parliamentary session. In November Earl Grey formed his ministry and Palmerston was appointed as Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, holding the post until ; during this time he acted as chairman at an international conference that debated the Belgian question following the Belgian revolt against Dutch rule. The problems were solved when Leopold of Saxe-Coburg became the first King of the Belgians tried to intervene in the Italian revolts to stop Austria and France becoming involved in the affairs of Naples and the Papal States set up the Quadruple Alliance between Britain and France to support the liberal regimes in Spain and Portugal tried to exclude French influence from Iberia on the grounds that this could be against British interests saw the successful conclusion of the Opium Wars with China and insisted on very harsh terms including the legalisation of the opium trade. The Treaty of Nanking was concluded after he left office. Hong Kong was ceded to Britain by this treaty: His attitude, as expressed in a letter to John Hobhouse, was prophetic: It seems pretty clear that, sooner or later, the Cossack and the Sepoy, the man from the Baltic and he from the British Isles will meet in the centre of Asia. It should be our business to take care that the meeting should take place as far off from our Indian possessions as may be convenient and advantageous to us. But the meeting will not be avoided by our staying at home to receive the visit. Almost immediately, the Portuguese queen, Maria, asked Palmerston for help in crushing a revolt by liberal elements in the country; the Constitution was restored as the liberals wished but Maria remained in power. In he overstepped the bounds of acceptability with the Don Pacifico incident although his attitude towards British subjects was applauded in Britain. Two months later, in February , Russell resigned after the defeat of his government at the hands of Palmerston; the Earl of Derby formed a ministry that lasted only until the end of the year. Starting in , the house was virtually rebuilt. Originally it had been part of the property of Romsey Abbey but had been sold off at the Dissolution of the Monasteries. The war was brought to a conclusion on February although there was no real settlement of the difficulties that had caused it in the first place. Palmerston was censured by parliament for his action; he called a general election and won a huge majority. In the Indian Mutiny broke out. Palmerston followed up these events with the Government of India Bill that transferred power from the East India Company to the British government. The members came from a broad spectrum of political opinion and included men such as Palmerston, Russell and John Bright. Shortly afterwards, Queen Victoria invited Palmerston to form another ministry in the absence of alternative candidates for the post. He also supported Denmark over ownership of Schleswig-Holstein but did not intervene when Prussia invaded in February Palmerston said later that only three people ever understood the Schleswig-Holstein Question: In , following a vote of censure, Palmerston

called a general election which he won with a convincing majority; however, he did not see the new parliament convened because he died of a fever on 18 October after catching a chill while out in his carriage. He wanted to be buried at Romsey Abbey but was given a state funeral at Westminster Abbey. Palmerston was 81 years old. That is the last thing I shall do!

Chapter 8 : Full text of "The Slave Trade and Lord Palmerston's Bill"

Full text of "The Slave Trade and Lord Palmerston's Bill" See other formats.

Chapter 9 : BBC - History - British History in depth: Driving Change Through Parliament

Henry John Temple, 3rd Viscount Palmerston, KG, GCB, PC, FRS (20 October - 18 October) was a British statesman who served twice as Prime Minister in the midth century. Palmerston dominated British foreign policy during the period to , when Britain was at the height of her imperial power.