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The correspondents of this Yearly Meeting in the 12th
Month last. Prompt action being desirable, as
many of the Members of this Meeting as could be
Assembled on short notice, met and in accor-
-dance with a request from London Friends
a Committee was appointed to present the Memorial
to the President of the United States. Abraham
Lincoln, who received them with much interest
and cordiality, and afterwards sent the following
acknowledgment which was transmitted to England.
This Meeting approved the action of their
Members thus informally taken and directs
their proceedings to be recorded on our Minutes.

(The memorial is herewith attached) 13

" The Quaker reply is as follows.

Executive Mansion

Washington January 7th 1860

Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge
the receipt through you of the Memorial of the
English Friends, in relation to the matter in question
between the government of Great Britain and
that of the United States of America.

Although I trust that any fears entertained
of serious derangement of our amicable
relations have been without foundation

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to show sympathy with a still more liberal and humane policy in regard to the
immense addition of the Religious Society of Friends on the impending difficulties between
Great Britain and the United States of America.

To VISCOUNT PALMERSTON, First Lord of the Treasury, and EARL RUSSELL, Principal
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.
The undersigned, acting on behalf of the Society of Friends throughout Great Britain,
request the consideration of the First Lord of the Treasury and the Foreign Secretary
of the observations on the present critical aspects of affairs between this country and
the United States of North America, offered as they are under a strong sense of religious
duty.

We have, on former occasions, so fully stated our conviction that all War is unlawful for
the Christian, that it is needless now to repeat it. But there are circumstances connected with
the present difficulties between the two countries, of so marked and peculiar a character as, in
our apprehension, to justify this special appeal to the Government. The relations which
exist between these two nations are such as to render it impossible to maintain a position of
neutrality. There are, perhaps, no two independent nations on the face of the earth so closely united
together as England and America by the combined ties of blood, of language, of religion, of
constitutional freedom, and of commercial interest; and no two nations between which a
war would be a more open scandal to our common Christianity, or a more serious injury to the
welfare and progress of the human race.

The hatred of a brother when once offended is a proverb. Nor were the feelings which
existed between England and America after the War of Independence and the War respecting
African Rights of Neutrals by any means an exception to this proverbial truth. By degrees,
however, animosity and mutual suspicion subsided. The reciprocal visits of enlightened
travellers, the vast increase of commercial relations, and the healthy emulation in Christian
philanthropy, in science and in literature were, under the Divine blessings, producing an
improved tone of both personal and national feelings. When at length, in 1840, the visit of
the Heir-apparent of the British throne to the United States seemed to complete the cordials
between the two countries. It is little more than twelve months since English
subjects and American citizens were alike rejoicing in this healthy condition of the relations
between these two great divisions of the Anglo-Saxon race. But to our sorrow, and to the
regret of all who are true to the principles of justice and equity, this happy state of things
is now, however, with sadness of heart, we see all this sorrowfully changed. A question
of international law, which could be submitted to a competent tribunal of able jurists,
whether European or American, by the arbitration or arbitrament of any independent State,
might probably in a few hours be settled to the satisfaction of all parties. As it is, however,