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 accordance 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 approves the action of their Members thus informally taken and directs their proceedings to be recorded on our Minutes.

(The memorial is herewith attached)

The Pres^dt's reply is as follows.

"Executive Mansion
Washington January 7th 1862

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

Copy of a Memorial 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 considerate attention of the First Lord of the Treasury and the Foreign Secretary to a few observations on the present critical aspect 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.

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 whom it 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 Neutral Rights 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 blessing, producing an improved tone of both personal and national feeling, when at length, in 1860, the visit of the Heir-apparent of the British throne to the United States seemed to complete the *entente cordiale* 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.

Now, however, with sadness of heart we see all this sorrowfully changed; and a question of international law, which if it could be submitted to a competent tribunal of able jurists, whether European or American, for the adjudication or arbitrament of any independent State, might probably in a few hours be settled to the satisfaction of all parties, appears to threaten