**Casement (Tiger) to Morel (Bulldog)**

**LSE Morel F8/23/473-476**

**7 June 1910**

Atlantic House

Ballycastle

17 June 1910

My dear Bulldog,

I have just got your note of 5th with Selous letter to Lady Charlotte and your memo on R's objections. I think your memo meets all he has put forward – and more than he has put forward too. He hasn't a leg to stand on really – but I fear he is not in earnest. It appeals less to him than the chance of posing at the Guildhall as the fearless critic of England in Egypt.

I send you back your memo as I don't want to leave it lying about – and you may wish to send it on elsewhere ??.

I think, with you, that united action by Gr Britain & U.S.A. to the end in view sold break down Belgian resistance without war, or threat of war, which, indeed, no body contemplates as possible in this connection. There could be no war – for this is no cause of fighting. Consular jurisdiction is perfectly lawful and could not be made a casus belli; and united British & U.S.A.

Consular jurisdiction wd convince the Belgian people & parliament that the change of method must be faced & faced at once. The F.O. don't want to take even that limited action because they would cut a poor figure, internationally, in doing it now and not ten years ago – of fifteen years ago after the Stokes crime.

Their record is as bad as bad can be in the Congo – for they alone, of all the Great Powers, were well informed and had far wider rights to safeguard – those of Treaties & those of their own people settled out on the Congo.

I don't agree with you that England and America are the two “great humanitarian powers” – but that's by the way. England more than America perhaps – but both are materialistic first and humanitarian only a century after. France is really a more humane people and one with a greater power of imagination – but she has not had the same reasons to call her feelings into play as England, with her enormous world interests has had – hence the smaller relative role she has played in these matters. Her Revolutionary War was a far greater act for humanity than anything England has ever done.

I have read your article on Liberia in June Cornhill. It is excellent – and I should dearly like to see it out into action. Also I have read with interest your articles in the “Times” Colonial Edition and I find them very enlightening. I do sincerely hope you may succeed in going out to the Niger on that journey. It will be of the greatest service to the cause of Africa that you should see at first hand the people whose cause you have so splendidly and faithfully championed. All that you say of Liberian “civilization” applies to ourselves – the French – the Germans (in differing degrees) – for the fight of the future must be against the degrading and paralyzing effort to “Anglicise” (I use the word for collective Europeanising) a native people into a sham likeness of wholly different conditions – What Europeans have to do in Africa is to render easier and speedier the task of the African himself in bringing his race and land into the stream of gentler humanity – but always by himself developing on native lines. For that reason i think that Mohamedan teaching may conceivably be better adapted for him than the doctrine of Christianity – as Christianity has developed in Western lands. I hope, very sincerely, you will succeed in going out and I am sure your journey would be of the greatest value.

What answer has Asquith given – of any – to the Memorial? Of course he will try & evade any answer so as not to come into conflict with Grey on C.R.A. Grey at F.O. has been a failure. This F.O. “tradition” is as evil, in its way, as the H. of Lords: it simply means that a Liberal or Radical Govt is by no means to be a Liberal or Radical in Foreign Affairs – they are to on just the same, inspired by the same old Tomfool minds that rule the Lords too – any change in conducting our negotiations is to be treated as "dangerous" – and every pretext or platitude put

forward by the permanent officials to be regarded as an oracular revelation – not to be questioned.

If the F.O. were to blow up tomorrow, save for the loss of historic records, it wd be a great blessing for the country to be left for say six months without such an institution.

I am very glad you point out in your Liberia articles that official England, as usual, was guided chiefly by the wish to prevent Germany getting anything. Isn't that a fine policy? Wherever one goes to find the same insane, idiotic game being played – as if that will keep the dam from filling up & overflowing.

Lady Charlotte is a real brick, she has been staunch and true to you and the cause. I wrote to her the other day – but, of course, I shall not mention this fresh matter you send me today.

How are you and all at Highgate? My very kind regards to Mrs Morel and love to the children and I hope you have better news of poor wee Roger at Barnmouth.

When does R sail for U.S.A.?

Yours ever

Tiger.