Rio de Janeiro 17th July 1826

M. le Vicomte,

Having full confidence in the constantly repeated Assurances of the Imperial Brazilian Government, that Persons concerned in the contraband Slave Trade shall be punished with all the rigour of the Law; which are again renewed in Your Excellency's Office of the 13th Instant, with the additional most satisfactory declaration that His Imperial Majesty desires to repress the Trade as much as possible; I hasten to communicate to Your Excellency that a Slave Vessel, lately arrived in this Harbour, has been denounced to me as illegally engaged in this Traffick.—

This Vessel is called the Primoroso Divino. She arrived from Angola on the 11th Instant with

To,
His Excellency
The Visconde de Inhambupe
&c — &c — &c

472

472 Slaves, 18 having died during the Passage, consigned to the Merchant Joaquim Ferreira dos Santos. — It is to be remarked that in the List of Maritime Arrivals her Nation is not mentioned.

After very careful Enquiry, I can find no trace of this Vessel having cleared from this Port, although this might be readily ascertained through the Ministry of Marine, where the Registry of her Passport and her Licence will of course be found, if she was furnished with them, as she ought to have been, to enable her legally to engage in the Trade.

My Information however goes to the fact that this Vessel is owned, and the greater part of the Cargo also owned, by a Portuguese Resident in the Portuguese Colony of Angola.

I lay this information

before

before Your Excellency under the Conviction that the necessary Inquiries will be made, and Steps taken to enforce the Law against the Primoroso Divino, her Cargo, and Crew, in the event of its appearing that she is not legally authorised to carry on this Trade.

I beg to renew to Your Excellency the Assurances of high Respect and Consideration with which I have the Honour to be,

M. le Vicomte,

Your Excellency's

most obedient

Humble Servant,

H Chambellan