Rio de Janeiro 18th July 1826

M. le Vicomte,

I shall not fail to communicate to my Government by the earliest opportunity, Your Excellency's Office of the 13th Instant, in reply to my Letter of the 20th Ultmo, requesting to be informed whether the Brazilian Schooner "Arsenia", which had cleared out from this Port for Molembo, and the Islands of St. Thomas and Prince, had really received permission to touch at these Islands.

Your Excellency acquaints me that the Arsenia had this permission and that Licences authorizing Slave Vessels to touch at places North of the Line will continue to be granted.

It is in my power to assure Your Excellency that the British Government hailed with the sincerest satisfaction

To,
His Excellency
The Viscon de de Inhambupe
&c — &c — &c.

satisfaction the Assurance contained in the Office of His Excellency The Visconde de S.ᵒ Amaro, then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, dated the 4.th January last, that the Imperial Brazilian Government had directed that no more Licences should be granted authorizing Slave Vessels to touch at places North of the Line.

That Resolution was in direct conformity with the clear Sense, nay, with the very words, of the existing Treaty and Convention for putting down the illicit Slave Trade: but since it has given way, (after the short lapse of only Six Months,) before the interested Representations of the Slave Merchants, whose illicit and fraudulent Commerce it shackled and repressed, it is hopeless to expect success from the repetition of any Appeal founded upon the stipulations, or the faith of Treaty.

I shall therefore leave to my Government to express in the terms they

they may think fit, the disappointment they will naturally feel when they learn this change of conduct and principle on the part of His Imperial Brazilian Majesty's Government: a change which plainly indicates that the representations of private Individuals, are held by this Government to be paramount to the engagements of Treaty.

But I cannot hesitate — respecting the Course it behoves me to take upon the announcement of this determination, nor delay to — protest against it in the strongest and most solemn manner, on the part of my Government, as a clear and direct Breach of the Treaty of Vienna of 22d. January 1815, and the — additional Convention of London of the 28th July 1817.

The Argument which Your Excellency employs, founded upon the Treaty between Portugal and Brazil, I humbly consider not to be applicable

to

to an infringement of a Treaty and Convention nowise connected therewith. — But I refrain from troubling Your Excellency with any further remarks on the subject.

I have the honour to be, with every Sentiment of Respect and Consideration,

M. le Vicomte,

Your Excellency's

most obedient

humble Servant,

J. Chamberlain