Most Excellent Sir:

It has become my duty to address your Excellency, on a subject which I had hoped the municipal authorities of this City could, and would have settled, some days since, without the necessity of Official communication between the U. States' Chargé d'Affaires, and a Minister of State.

A small party of Seamen were in=
=dulged, by the Commanders of the U. S. Frigate Hudson, with leave to land, and recreate themselves a while on shore, after a service of more than three years on board. These men, thus tem=
=porarily released from the strict discipline of a Man of War, became, it seems, somewhat boisterous in their mirth, from exciting too freely; and in their intoxication, some quarrel arose among themselves, and probably some blows were exchanged, tending to disturb the quiet of the immediate vicinity; but I have not heard that any Citizen was assaulted or insulted by the Sailors. They have already

suffered

suffered a pretty severe punishment, considering the
nature of their confinement; & the general cha-
=racter of that class of people, and the usual ab-
=sence of malice, in their frays of this kind;
(which sometimes induces the police of seaport
towns to treat them with more leniency than
ordinary ruffians; particularly when assured
that no opportunity of repeating the offence will
be allowed them;) and I may add, (if rightly
informed,) considering the slight disturbance
of the public peace, on that occasion.

There, however are only such argu-
=ments as might be urged in favor of their re-
=lease, if they were merely seamen in the ordinary
merchant service, or discharged from a vessel of
war, in that port; but, I ask leave to repeat to your
Excellency, they are sailors belonging to a Nation-
-al Frigate of the United States, that has need
of their services; and your Excellency will
comprehend, that, after this Experience, the
Commander, for his own sake, and that of the
service, in which he is engaged, as well as from
the honorary obligations due to the hospitality
of the port, will guard against a similar
occurrence.

The refusal to deliver to their

Officers the sailors of a Man of War, imprisoned for a mere tavern brawl; wherein no individual complains of wrong or injury, I believe, is a novelty. In this case, the Consul of the U. States addressed a respectful letter to the Intendant of Police, setting forth the circumstances; and offering to guarantee that the sailors, if delivered to their officers, should be taken on board the Frigate, immediately, and not suffered again to disturb the peace of the City. An Officer of the Hudson waited on the Intendant with a request to the same Effect. I am grieved to hear, that to the former no answer has been returned; and to the latter no explanation or satisfaction given — a slight, which, I am proud to reflect, no public agent of the Brazilian government, — no Officer bearing His Imperial Majesty's Commission, need apprehend from any Magistrate in the U. States; and I am compelled, by the circumstances which I have the honor to lay before Your Excellency, to apply for the interposition of Your Excellency's mediation, in order that there may

pray

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may be restored to their ships, as soon as
possible; and I have the honor to be,

With the very great respect and
Consideration,
Your Excellency's ob. Servant

Henry Le Brown

Legation of the United States,
of America, Rio de Janeiro.
May 2d. 1831

To His Most Excellent
Sut. Francisco Carneiro de Campos,
Councellor, Ministro and Secretary
of State, for Foreign affairs.
&c &c &c.