The undersigned Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge the reception of two Notes from His Excy the Marquess of Aracaty, Councillor, Minister & Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the former mentioning that a new Chargé d'Affaires from Brazil to take the place of Mr Rebello, which the undersigned will duly communicate to his Government, & the latter being an answer to his Note of the 20th of December.

The undersigned wishes now to solicit the goodwill of Your Excy, respecting an amelioration of one of the existing regulations of the Custom House, which is very disadvantageous to the vessels of the U.S. without being of any utility to Brazil, on the contrary the commerce of Brazil suffers by it, in common with that of all foreign nations. The merchants connected with the trade of the U.S. have several times represented that among other regulations, that of sealing the hatches of vessels discharging, was particularly injurious to them, if any accident happened to the seal, which might easily occur, the vessel was thought into difficulty, & in case of flour forming a part, as it commonly does, of the

cargo, it prevented a circulation of air to correct the heat of the hold which was extremely injurious: as this custom is not general in other countries, perhaps it may be discontinued without damage, whenever the customhouse regulations undergo a revisal.

But the practice to which the undersigned now wishes respectfully to draw your Exc^y's attention, is that, which prevents any vessel discharging after eight o'clock in the morning. This seemed nearly incredible, as two thirds of every day are lost by it: most probably it is an abuse that has crept in without the knowledge of the government. But surely the customhouse officers who are paid for their services should be held to give all their time to the public: if the time of discharging vessels is only continued till noon, it will be a great benefit to commerce, & will economize by one half the time now required for unlading vessels: & as the customhouse is open till two o'clock, there is ample time to prepare the daily reports, which are often so simple, as not to require five minutes. The improvement is as easy, as the relief would be great; & should Your Exc^y give it your favorable opinion, in passing the subject to His Exc^y

the Minister of the Treasury, the undersigned cannot but flatter himself, that the enlightened zeal & activity which guide that Minister in superintending every branch of the extensive department confided to his ability, will immediately cause the alterations ~~in~~ questioned to be made, as it is not complicated with any intricate part of the customhouse regulations, & will have the most beneficial effect in expediting the business of Brazilian, as well as, Foreign Merchants.

The undersigned in connection with this subject, may perhaps be allowed to allude to his own country. The prosperity of the U.S. has been too remarkable to escape the notice & admiration of the world. One great source of this prosperity is owing to the laws having given every possible facility to commerce & making the regulations of the Customhouse as little onerous as possible. The wisdom of this policy by the event, & by the fact that the abundance of forms & regulations this always productive of delay, is not always necessary to security. The Customhouse in the U.S. is open from nine o'clock till three, & the simplicity of the forms permits a great quantity of business to be transacted. But the inspectors who overlook the discharge of vessels, attend to

their duty from daylight till dark, only making their reports of each cargo, when its discharge is completed. The consequence is, that the same vessel would be unladed in a port of the U.S. in three days, that would require a fortnight in Brazil. That every facility should be given to commerce seems especially desireable, here, & when the position of Rio Janeiro is considered, even a stranger must be struck with the circumstances which render it capable of becoming one of the richest & most renowned marts of commerce in the world. It is needless to say however that much of its future prosperity will depend on the regulations of the custom house. The undersigned trusts that he may be excused for asking attention to the evil mentioned, which he was the more strongly encouraged to do, because the improvement will not be confined to his own countrymen, but will be felt by the whole commerce of the port.

The undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to Your Exc^y the assurances of his very high respect & consideration.

Legation of the U.S.A.
Rio Janeiro, Jany 7th
1829.

Wm Tudor.