The undersigned, Charge des Affaires of The United States of America presents his respects to the Marquis d'Inhambupe, Counsellor, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign affairs, and has the honour to invite the attention of His Excellency, to the following cases of capture of American vessels.

The Brig Leonidas of Boston, Bartlet, Master, on a voyage from Canton to Buenos Ayres, was captured in the month of June last by the Brasilean blockading squadron, on her entrance into the River Plate, sent into Monte Video, and subsequently ordered to Rio de Janeiro, upon the ground of being destined to a blockaded port, and of having on board enemy's property as announced in a note of His Excellency dated on 14th of August. At this port, where she arrived on the 10th of July, her cargo was discharged, and after a detention from the time

of capture, of upwards of three months, the vessel was liberated upon bonds, given for the amount of her estimated value, but without the payment of her freight or damages for her detention. The property reputed to belong to citizens of Buenos Ayres, has been sold without condemnation, for about 60,000 milreis, but no decision has yet been made in the case of the vessel.

The Brig Ruth of Philadelphia, Jefferson, Master was captured on the 5th of August, at sea, by the Imperial Brig of war, Independencia ou Morte, and sent to this port, where she arrived on 29th of same month, and where she still remains without a decision. This vessel was bound from Gibraltar for Buenos Ayres, with the intention of proceeding to Monte Video, in case upon arrival near the River Plate, the blockade should be found still

to be in force, and was at the time
of capture, actually destined
to the latter port, as appears by
her log-book, in consequence of
having received such informa-
tion on her voyage.

The Brig Pioneer, of Salem,
Potter master, bound on a voy-
age from Havanna direct to
Monte Video, with a stipulation
in the Charter party, to proceed
to Buenos ayres, in case the block-
ade should on arrival in the
River Plate, be found to be raised,
was captured on the 3d of Septem-
ber, off Cape St Mary's, by the
squadron under the command
of admiral Pinto Guedes, and
sent to the port of her destination,
where she arrived on the 8th of
that month, and where she
still continued without a tri-
al, as late as 28th of October.

The Brig Sarah George
of Portland, Gordon, master,
bound from Lima to Monte

Video was captured on the 23d of September, in or near the River Plate, by the Imperial brig Juan Caboclo, and sent into the latter port, where she arrived on 26th of same month, and where she still remained without a decision, on 28th Ultimo, the date of the last advices.

The Undersigned in a note addressed to His Imperial Majesty's government under date of 13th December 1825, had the honour to state the rules, which the Government of The United States would expect to be observed, in the conducting of blockades, as regarded American vessels. One of these rules, was distinctly declared to be, that as The United States did not acknowledge general and diplomatic notifications, as binding upon their citizens, they would not admit the validity of any capture except that of a vessel,

~~vessels~~ arrested in the attempt
to enter a blockaded port,
after having been warned off
by the blocking force. In the
answer to the said note, dated
on the 23d of December, the Mi-
=nister then occupying the For-
=reign Department, having made
no objections to that rule, nor
indeed to any of the others ad-
=vanced, but having on the con-
=trary, declared in general terms
on the part of his government,
that "the sentiments of justice
and impartiality expressed
in the (said) note, corresponded
with those, which his said Go-
=vernment had manifested",
The United States had a clear
right to expect, that no depar-
=ture from the rule, would have
taken place in the conducting
of the blockade of the River Plate.
Such has been their impression
up to the present moment, and
the President will learn, with

much surprize, as well as re-
=gret, that in the cases of the
Ruth, the Pioneer, and the Sarah
George, the captures were made
without any previous warning
and upon grounds which the
Undersigned is warranted in
asserting, will never be assented
to by the american government
as justificatory of their detention.

The Undersigned is extreme-
=ly gratified to observe the satis-
=faction with which His Excel-
=lency in his note of 31 ultimo,
received on 1 Inst, seems to speak
of "the harmony and friend-
=ship which happily reign
between the Empire of Brasil
and The United States of America"
inasmuch, as he has a right to
anticipate from this gratui-
=tous profession of amity, an ear-
=ly and favourable decision
in regard to the matters here-
=in represented. He therefore with
great confidence relies upon

the expectation, that Hi Impe-
=rial Majesty's government will
order the restoration of the said
three vessels and their cargoes,
with damages, and an adequate
indemnity for the injuries and
losses they will have sustained
by their detention.

In regard to the Leonidas,
the Undersigned also feels as-
=sured, that the bonds given in
her case, will be cancelled, and
that the agent of her owners,
will be paid the amount of
her freight and damages. He
also respectfully submits to the
consideration of Hi Imperial
Majesty's government, the advi-
=sableness of detaining in the
publick coffers, the proceeds of
the property condemned as
belonging to the enemy, until
an opportunity shall be af-
=forded for the Govenment of the
United States, to present to that
of Hi Imperial Majesty, the

arguments and reasoning, which have induced it to adopt the doctrine of the Play's covering the property, a principle which it is confidently expected will be embraced by all the Powers of America, as essentially connected with their true interests and prosperity. In making this request, the Undersigned conceives that he is asking nothing unreasonable. The case in point, is probably the only one which has arisen during the present war, and do the advantages resulting to the captors from a hasty distribution of the fund, cannot by any means sufficient to counterbalance the benefits, which the nation may derive, from the delay solicited.

The Undersigned has the honour herewith to transmit to His Excellency, authenticated copies of the protests of the

protests of the Masters of the Leonidas, the Pioneer and the Sarah George, and of an extract from the protest of the master of the Ruth.

The undersigned offers upon this occasion, to the Marquis of Inhambupe, the expressions of his esteem and consideration.

Gouveia

Legation of The United States of America
Rio de Janeiro. Novem. 14. 1826.