A true Copy
P. V. Kelly

No 4

British Consulate.
Lima, May 13th 1830.

Sir.

I have had the honor to receive your Note of last night.

The nature of its contents renders the answer which I am obliged to return, deeply painful to me, but I cannot on that account abandon my duty.-

I am, therefore, under the necessity of informing you that the measures which we have considered it to be our duty to adopt for the recovery of the amount of Cargo, belonging to British Subjects, forcibly taken out of the Mexican vessel "Hidalgo", are, to obtain and hold in deposit an equal amount of Peruvian Govt. property wherever it may be met with; because, whatever irregularity there may be in the Papers of the vessel (with which we have no concern) there was none in regard to the Cargo, which consisted principally of Bullion and Dollars, shipped by regular Bills of Lading, and regularly reported in the Manifest on arrival here:- So that there could not be a shadow of a suspicion of any intention to defraud this Govt. of its just claims. But independently of this, and admitting the contrary supposition, the fact of the Dollars being in circulation, and the Bullion melted down at the Mint,- which is notorious,- without any sentence having been pronounced against them,- justifies in the estimation of my Colleagues and myself the steps which I have mentioned, for the Security of British interests, and which we are confident are in conformity with the just views of our Govt.-

I have the honor to be, with distinguished consideration and Respect,

Sir, Your very obedient humble Servant.-

(Signed) Thos. S. Willimott

Honor D. J. M. Pando.
&c. &c. &c.
Minister of State in the Department of Foreign Relations.