Rio de Janeiro Sep.r 10.th 1827.

Vide tradução

Monsieur le Marquis,

I am aware that the Schedule

which I have had the honor to hand

to Your Excellency, of the indemnities

claimed by the owners of the British

Vessels captured in the River Plate,

affords ground for controversy and delay

in the final adjustment of a Question.

which, above all others connected

with

His Excellency

The

Marquis of Aracaty

&c &c &c

with Foreign Affairs, I conceive it

is the wish and interest of His Majesty

the Emperor to be rid of. — On the

other hand, I know that in the eyes

of my Government, the meritorious acts

of His Imperial Majesty's decision upon

this matter will be balanced according

to the promptness with which it is

carried into effect, and in like

manner, the claimants, who have

long

every thing to fear from procrastination,

will proportion their gratitude.-

These considerations urge me

to point out confidentially to your

Excellency, an Expedient, by which

I conceive the question of indemnity

may be instantly dismissed, and in

a manner satisfactory to all Parties.

It is necessary to state however,

that my Expedient is founded upon

the notion, which I trust is correct,

that

that on the part of the Brazilian

Government, all idea of gaining a

profit upon the captured vessels is

abandoned, and that it is merely

wished to avoid their proving a

heavy loss through payment of

indemnities.—

In releasing the vessels

and their Cargoes, it is evident,

that according to the instructions

I

of their Masters, the latter will be

to be sold at Buenos Ayres as soon

as that Market is open to them, and

funds must be provided out of the

Treasury of Brazil for payment of

damages.— But if the Cayoes

were brought into the Market of Rio

de Janeiro, these funds might be

supplied by the 15 per Cent duties

raised upon them.—

I would propose therefore,

that

that it should be agreed on the

side of the British Masters of Vessels

to despatch their Cargoes in Brazil:-

And on the side of the Brazilian

Government, it should be agreed,

that no profit is to be drawn from

their Cargoes, or from their forced

detention at this Place;- that is to

say,- the 15 p.r Cent duty levied

upon Entry of the Cargoes should

be

be returned in lieu of indemnities

for the heavy damages, & spences,

and Loses, sustained by the

Claimants, whilst at the Port Chayes

and Anchorage, "Tapiz" Rents

and Custom House chayes ought be

remitted as a matter of course, the

vessels having been exposed to them

only in consequence of illegal Capture

and forced detention.-

I

I am far from supposing

that the amount arising from the

above duties will equal the amount

of claims, but the compensation

of an effective and instantaneous

release from further loss and

delay will, I trust, make up the

difference. -

I suggest this expedient to

Your Excellency in the firm conviction,

that whilst it will speedily disengage

His

His Imperial Majesty from the

difficulties of this Question, it would

also cement that Harmony between

the two Countries, which it is thy

constant duty to attend to. —

I have the honor to avail

myself of this opportunity to renew

to your Excellency the assurances

of my esteem and high consideration.

H Gordon.