Rio de Janeiro 9th Septr 1826

M. le Vicomte,

It is my duty to make known to Your Excellency that, by accounts received here from Maranham, it appears that His Excellency the President of that Province, has admitted to entry, the Portuguese Schooner "Nove de Marco", belonging to the Villa da Praya in the Island of Ste Jago; having a Cargo of 86 Slaves on board said to have been received at Cabinda, but, as there is great reason to believe, actually taken in at Cacheu. Which Cargo was admitted to dispatch in the Custom House as if it had been legally imported, and all the forms prescribed by existing Treaty, had been observed.

The Passport presented by the "Nove

To,
His Excellency
The Visconde de Inhambupe
&c

"Nove de Marco" authorizing her to proceed to Cabinda and thence to Maranham, and back to the Island of St. Iago,— (but which it is to be remarked does not say a word about carrying Slaves) is issued by Colonel Chapuzet, the Governor General of the Portuguese Province of Cabo Verde, and bears date at Villa da Praya on the 24th November 1825. It wants all the essential formalities required by the existing Treaty and Convention, for the suppression of the illicit Slave Trade; and even if it possessed them, it is not competent to the Governor of a Portuguese Colony to authorize any Vessel under Portuguese Colours to carry on the Trade, or supply Brazil, a Foreign Country, with Slaves.

I have the honour to inclose a Copy of this Passport for Your Excellency's inspection; at the same time soliciting Your Excellency

to

to be pleased to order an enquiry to be made into the whole circumstances of the case, to the end that if these do not, as it seems scarcely possibly they can, bear out the local authorities at Maranham in admitting the Vessel and her Cargo to entry, and dispatch, due notice may be taken thereof by His Imperial Majesty's Government.

And I beg leave (in consequence of the late arrivals of Portuguese Slave Vessels at that Port and the occurrences connected therewith that have happened there,) to renew the urgent request lately made to Your Excellency, for issuing positive Orders to the President of Maranham not to allow, under any pretext whatever, the importation of Slaves into that Port;— unless by Vessels shewing that they are duly qualified to engage in the Traffick, by Brazilian Authorities, and

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a strict observation of the forms required by the Stipulations of existing Treaty.

I beg to renew to Your Excellency the Assurances of perfect Respect and high Consideration with which I have the honour to be,

M. le Vicomte,

Your Excellency's

most obedient,

humble Servant,

J. Chamberlain