To His Excellency
The Vi-count D'Aguiar.

Rio de Janeiro. Decem 10. 1825.

Most Excellent Sir.

In making this my first communication to your Excellency, as Counsellor, Minister and Secretary of State for the Foreign affairs of Brasil I cannot omit the opportunity thus afforded, of tendering my felicitations, upon the merited elevation of a gentleman, so well qualified by his experience and abilities, for that distinguished station.

I had the honour in my capacity of Consul of The United States to address under date of 12 August 1824, to the respectable Predecessor of your Excellency; a note communicating the impressment of an American

seaman named Tobias Madden, on the
1st of that month, and of his having been
on the following day forcibly conveyed
on board the Ship of the line Pedro Pri-
=meiro, then commanded by admiral
Cochrane, which sailed for Pernam-
=buco in a few hours thereafter, and
requesting that orders might be issued
to the Commander of the Squadron, to
place him at the disposal of the Ame-
=rican Consul at Pernambuco or Bahia.
Having been assured under date of the 18th
of same month, that in compliance
with my request, the solicited orders
had been given, I communicated
the fact to the Govern[illegible] of the United
States, and at the same time transmit-
=ted a copy of the Portaria as publish-
=ed in the Diario Fluminense of 23 August,
to the American Consul at Pernambuco,
who was informed in writing by the ad-
=miral on the 2 of October that no such
man was on board the Pedro Primeiro,

or had even been on board. It does not however appear, that the admiral had caused any enquiries to be made on board the other vessels under his command, and from the tenor of his communication, which is expressed in terms ~~inconsistent~~ disrespectful towards his Majesty's Government as well as towards me, it seems that his Lordship had been offended by the publication of the said portion. Believing however that a sense of duty would ultimately prevail over an undignified fit of passion, I did not doubt, but that the spirit of his orders and not the mere letter, would be obeyed, and that the impressed seaman would be restored to his liberty and to his country.

In this persuasion I remained until the 12 September last, when I received from the wife of the said Madden a letter dated at Baltimore on 16th June preceding, stating that she had never heard of or from her husband

since the date of his imprisonment, and soliciting intelligence as to his fate, to relieve the minds of his distressed family. as the Pedro Primeiro had not yet returned from her Northern expedition and as I had never received from His Majesty's Government any official communication of the results of the Admiral's enquiries, I addressed a letter on 2d of September to the Chief of Division Sewett, then about to proceed to Bahia, to take command of that Ship, requesting him to enquire into the case. Having received no answer prior to, or since the arrival of the said ship at this Port on 1 Inst. I addressed to the same gentleman on the 5th an additional letter, in the hopes, that I should have been spared the necessity of addressing a formal note to His Majesty's Government, upon this very unpleasant affair. Having been disappointed in this reasonable expectation, owing to

the silence of the said Chief of Division whose numerous engagements have probably prevented him from replying to either of my communications I have now to request, that You will adopt effectual measures for the immediate investigation of the matter herein referred to.

I have the honour to be,
With Great Respect.
Your Excellency's
Most Obedient & Humble
Servant.

Lady Raglan