Slave Trade.

The Undersigned, with reference to the Note of the Vicomte d'Itabayana of the 24th of November last, complaining of the Sentence pronounced by the Mixed Commission at Sierra Leone in the case of the Brazilian Vessel the "Tres Amigos", has to call to the recollection of the Vicomte d'Itabayana, that this vessel was condemned by the Court of Mixed Commission for having, while in a Latitude to the North of the Line, and without a Passport for Slave Trade, been found with three female Negroes concealed on board, evidently intended for the purposes of traffick. —

The Vicomte d'Itabayana.

The

&c.a &c.a &c.a —

The Undersigned is commanded to observe to the Vicomte d'Itabayana, that the Articles of the Convention of 1817, and of the Instructions, which the Vicomte d'Itabayana cites in support of his objections to the proceedings of the Court of Mixed Commission, have reference only to the cases of Vessels furnished — with Passports entitling them to purchase Slaves; and that, the "Tres Amigos" — having no such Passport, the arguments of the Vicomte d'Itabayana founded upon the Articles in question are wholly irrelevant to the present case.

The Undersigned maintains, that the principle upon which the sentence

in

in this case was passed, is in strict accordance with the Treaty; and he is commanded to acquaint the Vicomte d'Itabayana, that His Majesty's Government cannot consent to any step tending to call in question the validity of the Sentence in the case of the "Tres Amigos". —

The Undersigned observes that the Vicomte d'Itabayana repeats his objections to the competency of the Mixed Commission Court at Sierra Leone to decide upon cases of Brazilian Slave Ships, since the Treaty of the 23d of November, 1826; contending, that the Sentences condemning the "Tres Amigos" and other Ships detained since that date, are

altogether

altogether nullities, —

Upon this point the Undersigned requests the attention of the Vicomte d'Itabayana to his note of the 29th of November, 1828, in which the grounds upon which His Majesty's Government maintain the validity of those sentences, and the competency of the Court, are fully set forth and explained. —

The Undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Vicomte d'Itabayana the assurances of his distinguished consideration. —

Aberdeen

Foreign Office;
March 10th, 1829.