Repondu en 2 Le d Janv 2 1808

Most Excellent Sir,

Your reply to my remonstrance of the 11th inst. I have had the honour to receive.

Your Excellency has been pleased to remark, that the bond System against which it has been my duty to protest, is a measure which the Government of His Imperial Majesty, ought, and has a right to take, to strengthen the blockade, and to bring to reason the Republic which has moved so unjust a war.

The right of a Belligerent Power, to adopt any measures to give efficiey to its blockade, is not questioned, provided those measures accord with the Laws and Usuages of Nations.-

But it cannot be admitted that Neutral rights are to be qualified by the justice or injustice of the war, or that any consideration of expediency on the part of the Belligerent, can justify their infraction..

The right to establish blockade, is derived from the Laws and Usuages of Nations, and by the same authorities that right must be defined.-

All the approved Writers on National Law, concur in requiring efficient force, to constitute legitimate blockade, and none have ~~ever~~ made the most distant allusion to a right, to exact bonds for its support; or suggested any other penalty for its Violation, than the Confiscation of the Captured Vessels and Cargoes

Whence then is authority to be adduced for this bond System? Are Belligerents at pleasure to create decrees controuling foreign Commerce on the Ocean?

Is their convenience to constitute the sole measure of Neutral rights?

The only measures of parallel pretension, within my knowledge, were protested against by

all Neutral Powers, and being persisted in, were forcibly and effectively resisted.

I beg Your Excellency to accept the assu-
-rance of my distinguished consideration.-

Rio de Janeiro. Jany 22nd 1828.

H. M. D. Longchamps
Consul
U. S. A.

To His Excellency
The Marquis of Aracaty
Counsellor, Minister and
Secretary of State
For Foreign Affairs
&c. &c. &c.