Foreign Office, January 14th 1846 = The
Undersigned, Her Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
has not failed to take into his atten-
tive communication, the Note which
the Commandeur Marques Lisboa, En-
voy Extraordinary and Minister Plen-
potentiary of His Majesty the Empero
of Brazil, did him the honour to
address to him on the 28th of January
last, in reply to the Note of the Under-
signed, dated the 21st of the same
month, on the subject of the claim
brought forward by the owner of the
Brazilian Brig "Relampago", for com-
pensation for the alleged illegal de-
tention of that vessel by Her Maje-
sty's Brig "Dolphin" in the month
of April 1844, on account of her
having been found off Macahé un-
provided with a manifest.

The Commandeur Marques Lisboa

will remember that in the note which the Undersigned addressed to him in answer to his first representation upon this subject, the undersigned observed that the absence of so important a document as the Ship's Manifest, which, for some secret and unexplained motive, was in this case sent on board another vessel, constituted so suspicious a circumstance, as to justify an Officer employed under the Convention with Brazil, in suppressing the slave trade, in taking the Belampago back to the Port from which she had sailed the previous day, and that for this reason Her Majesty's Government must feel themselves justified in declining to make the required compensation.

The Undersigned is compelled to say that he finds nothing in the Commandeur Marques Lisboa's further representation, to lead him to change the opinion expressed in his former notes.

With regard to the discrepancy

adverted to by the Commandeur Marques Lisboa, as occurring between the view taken of the case by the Seizor, and that taken by Sir Thomas Pasley, the Undersigned begs leave to observe that the Officer who seized the vessel, conducted her back to Rio de Janeiro the Port from which she had sailed on the previous day, on account of the absence of that important document, the Manifest, and the suspicion that she was going on an illegal voyage. On her arrival in Port, the absence of the Manifest being accounted for, and the other suspicious circumstances appearing to Sir Thomas Pasley to render the vessel amenable to the Brazilian Tribunal, rather than to a Mixed Commission, he directed that she should be forthwith given up; but at the same time requested Her Majesty's Minister to give the requisite information to the Brazilian Minister, in order that proceedings might, if deemed proper by that Government, be instituted in the Civil

Tribunals of the Country.

The Undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to the Commandeur Marques Lisboa the assurance of his highest consideration = Aberdeen = The Commandeur Marques Lisboa. &c &c