1830

10 de Fevereiro de 1830.

The Undersigned, His Britannick Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires has received the orders of His Majesty's Government to communicate to His Excellency Senhor Calmon du Pin e Almeida, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs the despatch, a copy of which he has the honor to enclose herewith.

The Sentiments of His Majesty's Government upon the important question, of which that Despatch treats, are therein fully and clearly detailed, and it remains only for the Undersigned to state to His Excellency, that he is directed to require from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of His Imperial Majesty, an explicit declaration of the views and intentions of the Government of

His Excellency
Senhor Miguel Calmon du Pin e Almeida
&c &c &c

No. 68. Dec. 17. 1829.

of the Emperor Don Pedro, respecting the future

political relations of Brazil and Portugal.

The Undersigned trusts that His

Excellency will, as soon as convenient, enable

the Undersigned to transmit to His Majesty's

Government the decision of the Government

of His Imperial Majesty upon this momentous

affair.

The Undersigned avails

himself of this opportunity to renew to His

Excellency Senhor Calmon du Pin e Almeida the

assurances of his highest Consideration and

Esteem.

Matthews Coolow

Rio de Janeiro

February 10. 1830.

No 4.

Foreign Office
17th December 1829.

Sir,

In my Despatch No 6, enclosing the Copy of a Communication addressed to His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at the Court of Madrid, will have led you to expect the speedy acknowledgement by that Court, of the Infant Don Miguel, as King of Portugal. This Event has not only taken place, but it has been followed by the renewal of

Arthur Aston Esqre

&c &c &c

of his diplomatick functions by the

Papal Nuncio.

His Majesty's Government

have long felt that the present

Character of His Majesty's relations

with the Kingdom of Portugal could not

be indefinitely continued; and they

are fully sensible, that, even if His

Majesty were to make the attempt,

it would be impossible to expect that

the other Powers of Europe should be

prepared to follow His Example. - A

regard for the welfare and tranquillity

of Portugal, will not permit His

Majesty to remain indifferent to this

State

State of uncertainty and alarm in which that unfortunate Country is placed; and the commercial Intercourse of His Majesty's Subjects, exposed to numerous obstructions and embarrassments, requires the aid of His Majesty's intervention.

On the other hand, His Majesty, in common with all the friends of Peace, is deeply interested in seeing the termination of this contest, between the Princes of the House of Braganza, which keeps alive the Spirit of party in Portugal, and, by affording encouragement to

a

a revolutionary faction; not only
in that Country but throughout
Europe, threatens the tranquillity of
the whole Peninsula.

It is not necessary for me
to bring to your recollection the various
efforts which have been made by His
Majesty's Government to hasten the
termination of those dissensions; nor
the manner in which such efforts
have been received. The Ambassador
of His Majesty at Rio de Janeiro was
repeatedly informed that the
Brazilian Plenipotentiary in London,
had received full Instructions to

carry

carry on the negociation in an

amicable and conciliatory spirit;

while the powers of this Functionary,

as exercised here, appeared to extend

no further than the attempt to procure

Military assistance for carrying on

hostilities against Portugal. Neither

is it my intention to enter into an

Examination of the conduct of the

Agents of the Emperor Don Pedro in

this Country, with the view of

ascertaining how far it has been

calculated to promote the Success of

the cause which they were commanded

to support, or to conciliate the countenance

and good will of the Powers of

Europe.

The return to Brasil of

the Queen Donna Maria, contrary to

the wishes and advice of his Majesty's

Government, has rendered still more

urgent the necessity of some final

decision on the part of the different

European States, who are interested

in the settlement of the Portuguese

succession.

It is true, that at the

death of the late King John 6th,

the principal Powers of Europe,

influenced by the known love

of

of primogeniture, and by the
presumed Will of the deceased Monarch
acknowledged his eldest Son Don
Pedro, as his lawful Successor to the
Crown of Portugal. — They also
admitted the right of this Prince to
abdicate the throne in favour of
his Daughter Da Infanta Maria
da Gloria; which abdication was
finally completed on the 3d of
March 1828. A numerous and
powerful party, however, in the
Kingdom, denied the validity of
these transactions, and maintained
that Don Pedro, having accepted a
foreign

foreign Crown, had lost all title

to that of Portugal, which, by the

ancient Laws of the Realm,

devolved to His Brother. - Established

as Regent at Lisbon, the Infant Don

Miguel, in violation of his oaths and

declarations, but supported and

impelled by the violence of this Party,

finally assumed the Royal Authority.

The Ministers of the

European Powers not choosing to

sanction this Act, suspended at

once the Exercise of their diplomatick

functions, and subsequently withdrew

to

to their respective Courts. - It cannot
be doubted that the usurpation, by
whatever means accomplished, has
received the free suffrage of a great
majority of the Portuguese Nation.
Foreign States are not called upon
to pronounce any definitive judgement
upon the conflicting claims of the
Princes of the Family of Braganza. -
This question can only be fully solved
by a just interpretation of the
fundamental laws of Portugal; and
in the interpretation of these Laws
the Portuguese Jurists are by no
means

Means agreed. All States however
have a direct interest in renewing
their friendly relations with an ancient
member of the European Confederacy;
and all are naturally desirous of
putting an end to disquietudes and
alarm which may too easily lead
to extensive calamity.

The Emperor Don Pedro
has declared to the Brazilian
Legislative Assembly, that, although
He was resolved not to acquiesce in
the usurpation of His Daughter's
Throne

Throne, He was equally determined

not to endanger the tranquility of

Brazil, on account of that usurpation.

It is obvious that such a

declaration can only tend to

encourage the Spirit of faction, to

excite to acts of private warfare, and

indefinitely to prolong the troubles of

Portugal. It is founded upon a

principle which sacrifices the

Public happiness and tranquility

to the mere chance of personal advantage,

and in this principle it is not to

be expected that the Powers of Europe

Should

Should satisfactorily acquiesce. — Such
a System of policy cannot be
recognized and sanctioned either by
the general principles of international
Law, or by the Stipulations of any
existing treaty. — It is time that some
prospect should be afforded of the
termination of a contest which has
been carried on by such unusual
means; and the character of which
has already produced a general
feeling of apprehension
Upon the receipt of
this Despatch, you will lose no
Time

time in communicating the
sentiments of His Majesty's Government
to the Brazilian Minister, and you
will demand from the Marquis of
Aracaty, an explicit declaration
of the views and intentions of the
Government of the Emperor Don Pedro,
respecting the future political relations
of Brazil and Portugal.

The Ministers of His Imperial
Majesty, the Emperor of Austria and
of His Most Christian Majesty will be
instructed to join in a similar demand.

In making this last
appeal

appeal to the Spanish Government.

these Sovereigns follow the course

which is most Consistent with

their declared principles, and with

their previous conduct, but it is

essential that they should be placed

in a situation which may enable

them, without delay, to adopt

such a decision upon this important

question, as the force of circumstances

and a regard to the Interests of

their own people, may render

necessary. —

I am &c

&c

Signed Aberdeen