Sandy Raguet, Consul of the United States of America, renews his complimentes to His Excellency Duke de Saldanha Mello, Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and acknowledges the receipt of His Excellency's note dated on the preceding day, informing him that Mr. Williams would be delivered up to the said Consul as soon as he should prove himself to be an American subject. His Excellency cannot but be aware, that the peculiar form of the Government of the United States confers upon all who live under its happy influence and enjoy its blessings, the title of citizen, and in this sense he presumes the term "subdito" has been used, for in no other construction could the proof called for be adduced.

As in no former case, wherein American seamen have been claimed by their Consul, has proof been demanded of their title to his protection, and as

Raguet foreseing the difficulty, if not the impossibility to comply with this demand on the part of a ship-wrecked stranger, who had probably lost with his effects all proof of his citizenship, and who was confined on board a prison-ship, uncommunicable with his countrymen to whom alone he could be known — [redacted] this unfortunate went in person on board the Prezigganga, as the only course which presented itself, to relieve from an ignominious and unjustifiable oppression, this unfortunate American citizen, who had been guilty of no crime, unless the being shipwrecked was one. Mr Raguet has the honour to hand to His Excellency enclosed the deposition taken upon this occasion which furnishes the only evidence he is prepared to adduce. If in this catalogue of wrongs and injuries, His Excellency cannot discover the proof which he has sought for, Mr Raguet, in order that this man's sufferings may not be prolonged

for want of exertions on his part, requests that His Excellency will specify what further testimony he requires. As the deposition sent herewith, is an original document, to be placed on record in this Consulate, Mr Raguet will thank His Excellency to return it, after having made of it, the use designed by its transmission.

Mr Raguet tenders to His Excellency the assurance of his high consideration.

Rio de Janeiro. November 22. 1824