

\* Footnote re page 13:

Consuls.

The older British attitude toward the non-diplomatic character of foreign Consuls is amusingly shown in a note from the Master of Ceremonies of the English Court to Washington Irving, while United States Chargé d'Affaires. For the ceremony of the Coronation of King William IV, scores of Americans in London were eager to receive invitations, amongst them the Consul General. Irving received a note:

Sir Robert Chester presents his compliments to Mr. Washington Irving and will be much obliged if he will be kind enough, at his earliest convenience, to favour Sir Robert Chester with the names of the Persons, from the Court of the President of the United States of North America, for whom Mr. Washington Irving may wish to receive tickets of invitation to the ceremony of the Coronation of His Majesty in Westminster Abbey on the 8th September next.

Chester then took the occasion to point out that:

Ambassadors, Ministers and Foreigners of Distinction are eligible for invitation, and that a Consul-General or Consul is neither considered a Foreigner of Distinction nor a Diplomatic Character.

(Beckles Willson. America's Ambassadors to England. p.192).