

now taking upon the Island of San Juan, as it differs materially from the original one: increasing their numbers, landing heavy ordnance, and placing guns on the ridge commanding the harbour.

In my memorandum to you of the 13th August, I desired you by every means in your power to avoid a collision with the troops of the United States. It is now my positive order that you do not, on any account whatever, take the initiative in commencing hostilities by firing on them or on any work they may have thrown up.

Should the troops of the United States commit any aggressive act by firing on the "Tribune," or on any of Her Majesty's ships or boats, you are at full liberty to resent the insult by adopting such measures as you think [desirable?], informing me of the circumstances as quickly as possible.

In the event of the Resident Magistrate, from any cause, deeming it necessary to embark, you will receive him; but ulterior measures in such a case must rest with his Excellency the Governor and myself.

(Signed) R. LAMBERT BAYNES.

Captain Hornby, *Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-chief.*
Her Majesty's ship "Tribune,"
Griffin Bay, Island of San Juan.

No. 47.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 21, 1859.

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I HAVE laid before Lord John Russell your letter of the 19th instant, inclosing among other papers, a despatch of the 19th August from Rear-Admiral Baynes, reporting the course which he has adopted with regard to the recent occupation of the Island of San Juan by troops of the United States, and the considerations which have induced him to adopt that course.

I am, in reply, to request that you will express to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the satisfaction which Lord John Russell feels at the conduct pursued by Rear-Admiral Baynes in these transactions, and which his Lordship considers to have greatly conduced to the maintenance of pacific relations with the United States.

I am further to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that Lord John Russell wishes that Admiral Baynes should be directed to endeavour to concert with General Scott as to a temporary arrangement which shall keep uncompromised the British rights to the disputed territory, and at the same time prevent any collision between two friendly nations.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 48.

Lord Wodehouse to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1859:

WITH reference to Mr. Hammond's letter of the 21st instant, containing the instructions which Lord John Russell was desirous should be given to Rear-Admiral Baynes with regard to the recent occupation of the Island of San Juan by troops of the United States, I am directed by his Lordship to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that he also wishes that Rear-Admiral Baynes may be confi-