

may have to make on the subject of the increase of duties on imports into Canada, but stating that you see no advantage in receiving the Deputation.

I am directed to thank you for your kind offer, but to say that the Iron Trade Section are still very desirous that the Deputation appointed should wait upon you, and would esteem it a favour if you could receive them on an early date, as the matter is very urgent.

I am further directed to hand you copy of resolution passed unanimously at yesterday's meeting, viz. :—

“That the members of the Iron and General Metal Trades Section of the Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool, having heard with astonishment of the proposed increase in the Canadian tariff, beg to call the attention of Her Majesty's Government to the fact that, if this proposal becomes law it will probably lead to the exclusion of British iron and steel manufactures from that market and to serious injury to the trade of this country.”

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS H. BARKER,

The Right Hon. Sir H. T. Holland, Bart., G.C.M.G., Secretary.  
Secretary of State for the Colonies, London.

No. 4.\*

THE BIRMINGHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE to COLONIAL OFFICE.  
(Received May 20, 1887.)

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce,  
Exchange, New Street.

SIR,

Undated.

I AM instructed by the Chairman of this Chamber to inform you that, at a meeting of the council held to-day, they considered a paragraph which appeared in the “Times” newspaper of Saturday last, intimating that the Canadian Government were about to enforce very high rates of import duty on iron and steel. I am further instructed to direct your attention to this matter, and to inquire if any action could be taken by Her Majesty's Government with a view to modify the prohibitive duties proposed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) W. F. HAYDON,  
Secretary.

Sir Henry Holland, Bart.,  
Secretary of State for the Colonies,  
Colonial Office, London.

No. 5.

COLONIAL OFFICE to the LIVERPOOL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,

Downing Street, May 20, 1887.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to acknowledge the receipt of your letter and telegram of the 18th inst.,† requesting him to receive a deputation from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce on the subject of the proposed increase in the duties on iron and steel manufactures imported into Canada.

Sir H. Holland telegraphed to you yesterday in reply, to the effect that he would forward to the Canadian Government any representations you might wish to make respecting the proposed increase of duties on imports, but that he saw no advantage in receiving a deputation.

Sir H. Holland desires me to refer you to the answer given by the First Lord of the Treasury on this subject in the House of Commons yesterday, and to suggest that the

\* Copy sent to Governor-General of Canada in covering Despatch dated May 21, 1887.

† No. 1.