

1850 *Convention Canal Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (Bulwer-Clayton)*

boundary to the eastern shore of the Gulf of Georgia has been defined upon the ground, are approved, agreed to, and adopted by both Governments.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto their respective seals.

Done at Washington, the 24th day of February, in the year of Our Lord, 1870.

[L.S.] EDWARD THORNTON.

[L.S.] HAMILTON FISH.

1850

1 CONVENTION BETWEEN HER MAJESTY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, RELATIVE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMUNICATION BY SHIP-CANAL BETWEEN THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS.<sup>2</sup>—SIGNED AT WASHINGTON, APRIL 19, 1850.

*(Ratifications exchanged at Washington, July 4, 1850)*

Her Britannic Majesty and the United States of America being desirous of consolidating the relations of amity which so happily subsist between them, by setting forth and fixing in a Convention their views and intentions, with reference to any means of communication by ship-canal which may be constructed between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by the way of the River St. Juan de Nicaragua, and either or both of the Lakes Nicaragua or Managua, to any port or place on the Pacific Ocean.

Her Britannic Majesty has conferred Full powers on the Right Honourable Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty to the United States; and the President of the United States, on John M. Clayton, Secretary of State of the United States, for the aforesaid purpose; and the said Plenipotentiaries having exchanged their Full powers, which were found to be in proper form, have agreed to the following Articles:

Art. I.—The Governments of Great Britain and the United States hereby declare, that neither the one nor the other will ever obtain or maintain for itself any exclusive control over the said ship-canal; agreeing that neither will ever erect or maintain any fortifications commanding the same, or in the vicinity thereof, or occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume or exercise any dominion over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito Coast, or any part of Central America, nor will either make use of any protection which either affords, or may afford, or any alliance which either has, or may have, to or with any State or People, for the purpose of erecting or maintaining any such fortifications, or of occupying, fortifying, or colonizing Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the Mosquito Coast, or any part of Central America, or of assuming or exercising dominion over the same. Nor will Great Britain or the United States take advantage of any intimacy, or use any alliance, connexion, or influence that either may possess with any State or Government through whose territory the said canal may pass, for the purpose of acquiring or holding, directly or indirectly, for the subjects or citizens of the one, any rights or advantages in regard to commerce or navigation through the said canal, which shall not be offered, on the same terms, to the subjects or citizens of the other.

<sup>1</sup> From British & Foreign State Papers, Vol. 38, p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Superseded by the Treaty of 18 November, 1901 (See page 147), the objects of which however are to be carried into effect "without impairing the 'general principle' of neutralization established in Article VIII" of this Treaty.