

Paraphrase of a Telegram from the F. O. to Sir Julian Pauncefote, Washington.

F. O., 11.30 p.m., April 9, 1898.

No. 60. Alaska Boundary. Your telegram No. 23 of March 27. Canadian Government demur to proceeding with demarcation under Convention of 1892. A despatch explaining reasons not yet received, but the objection probably is that in view of wide divergence of views the negotiations could lead to no result. They are prepared to agree to the fixing of a provisional line at the watershed at first summit north of Dyea without prejudice to the claims of either party, and you might ascertain whether United States Government would agree to this proposal. You will observe that the provisional boundary is considerably more than ten leagues from the coast. If you consider that there is now a better chance of the Senate's accepting a supplementary Convention providing for a final adjustment by arbitration of the whole question, you should urge the President to agree to immediate negotiation of such a Convention on the lines which my telegram of February 19 laid down.

858 K.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OTTAWA, May 9, 1898.

Confidential.

For His Excellency,
The Governor General in Council.

The undersigned has the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the two references from Council, dated respectively to 27th and 30th ulto., P.C. No. 854 K. and 858 K. of copies of confidential despatches from the Colonial Office, dated 13th ulto., covering copies of two telegrams dated the 9th of the same month, from the Foreign Office to the British Ambassador at Washington, with regard to the Alaska Boundary, and to state that the same have been duly noted.

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD SIFTON,
Minister of the Interior.

CANADA.

Confidential.

DOWNING STREET, April 13, 1898.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to transmit to you for the confidential information of your ministers with reference to your telegram of the 31st ult. a copy of the documents noted below respecting the action of the United States officer at Dyea with regard to the exercise of Canadian jurisdiction at summits of passes and at Lake Lindeman.

I have, &c.,

EDWARD WINGFIELD,
For the S. of S.

The Officer Administering
The Government of Canada.

DATE.	DESCRIPTION OF DOCUMENT.
April 9, 1898.....	Paraphrase of a telegram from the F. O. to Sir J. Pauncefote.

Paraphrase of a telegram to Sir Julian Pauncefote.

F. O. 11.45 p.m., 9 April, 1898.

No. 61, Alaska Boundary. A letter from the Colonial Office dated 7th April, complaining of action of United States officer at Dyea in requesting Canadian police to cease exercising jurisdiction at summits of passes and at Lake Lindeman has been sent to you by bag.

On its receipt you are to make a friendly representation to United States Government, pointing out the extreme inconvenience of allowing officers necessarily unacquainted with the present position of the controversy to take local action of this kind. It is hardly possible that any arbitration can fix a line so unfavourable to Canada as the one thus claimed for the first time; and it is most desirable that both governments should work harmoniously to relieve distress and preserve order.