

The sealed letter addressed to the United States district attorney and United States Marshal at Sitka, Alaska, came into the possession of my Government under the circumstances described in the statutory declaration of Captain Dyer, of the "Alfred Adams." I shall be much obliged if you will have the goodness to cause the letter to be forwarded to Mr. Secretary Bayard. I should add by way of explanation that the envelope of the letter which is described by the Minister in his report as "sealed and unopened," appears to have been worn through at one end during the transmission of the papers by post.

LANSDOWNNE.

The Honorable L. S. SACKVILLE WEST, K.C.M.G.

*Sir H. Holland to Lord Lansdownne.*

DOWNING STREET, 29th September, 1887.

MY LORD,—I communicated on 27th inst. to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copies of your Lordship's despatches Nos. 325 and 338 of the 19th and 27th of August, respectively, relating to the seizure in Behring Sea by a United States revenue cutter of the British Columbian vessels "Grace," "Dolphin" and "W. P. Sayward."

I now have the honor to transmit to you for the information of your Ministers, a copy of a letter from the Foreign Office, enclosing a copy of a despatch which the Marquis of Salisbury has addressed upon this subject to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington.

I have, &c.,

H. T. HOLLAND.

Governor General, the Most Honorable the Marquis of Lansdownne, G.C.M.G., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

*Foreign Office to Colonial Office.*

FOREIGN OFFICE, 27th September, 1887.

SIR,—I laid before the Marquis of Salisbury your letter of the 15th instant, enclosing despatches and other papers received from the Government of Canada, relative to the seizure in Behring's Sea by the United States revenue cutter "Richard Rush," of the British Columbian vessels, the "Grace," the "Dolphin" and the "W. P. Sayward."

Lord Salisbury has instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Washington to make representations to the United States Government in regard to these cases, in connection with those of the "Carolina," "Onward" and "Thornton;" and His Lordship has directed Sir L. West to call attention to the fact that in the case of the "W. P. Sayward" according to her mate's deposition no seals were taken by her crew in Behring Sea, as is alleged in the libel of information filed in the United States District Court.

I enclose a copy of the despatch addressed to Sir L. West for the information of Secretary Sir H. Holland.

I have, &c.,

W. P. CURRIE.

The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

*Lord Salisbury to Sir L. S. West.*

FOREIGN OFFICE, 27th September, 1887.

SIR,—I transmit to you herewith copies of two despatches, No. 325, 19th and No. 338, 27th, ultimo, addressed to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Governor General of Canada, forwarding papers relative to the seizure in