

May 1888?

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The Mount,  
Bresley Heath.  
Kent.

To the Editor of The Times.

Sir,

Sir Willoughby Maycock in his book "With Mr Chamberlain in the United States and Canada", refers to the deadlock in the negotiations for a settlement of the Fisheries dispute, and explains how the British Plenipotentiaries eventually obtained a Treaty with the United States at page 200 as follows: "It was after our return from Canada to Washington that the impasse referred to was reached. Mr Chamberlain had come to an understanding with Mr Bayard before we started from Washington in December, that if the Dominion Government would make certain concessions, the Americans would on their part make certain corresponding concessions, and thus a settlement would be reached. There is no need to specify in detail what those mutual concessions were. Suffice it to say that on the faith of these assurances, we went to Canada, and as a result of more than one protracted interview with Sir John Macdonald, in which Sir Charles Tupper also took part, the Dominion Government eventually, though not without reluctance agreed to the concessions they were asked to make." This conveys an entirely erroneous view of the position, as it suggests that Mr Chamberlain without my knowledge had arranged with Mr Bayard, that if he would agree to certain concessions, he

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