

Correspondence relative to the North American Fisheries

No. 1.

Mr. West to Earl Granville.—(Received May 17.)

My Lord,

Washington, May 4,

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith to your Lordship copies of a Joint Resolution introduced into the House of Representatives, requesting the President to negotiate with Great Britain for a renewal of the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty of 1854. The Resolution was not acted upon. It would appear, however, that the Committee on Foreign Affairs, to whom it was referred, is doubtful if such a Treaty would be satisfactory, and it is proposed in consequence to report and substitute for it a Resolution expressing the opinion of the House in favour of negotiations looking to a commercial agreement without undertaking to specify its terms or encroaching upon the prerogative of the Treaty-making power. It is expected that some action may be taken on the subject by the end of this week. I have addressed a despatch to the Marquis of Lansdowne in this sense, and have forwarded to his Excellency copies of the Resolution.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. SACKVILLE WILLES

Inclosure in No. 1.

48th Congress.—1st Session.—H. Res. 32.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

December 11, 1883.—Read twice, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs; ordered to be printed.

MR. MAYBURY introduced the following Joint Resolution:—

Joint Resolution requesting the President to negotiate with Great Britain for a renewal of the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty of 1854. Whereas the Reciprocity Treaty with Great Britain regulating commerce and navigation between the United States and the British Colonies of North America was terminated on the 17th of June, 1866, in virtue of previous notice given by the United States; and where the provisions of said Treaty providing for mutual rights in certain sea fisheries, the free navigation of the Great Lakes, the River Saint Lawrence, and the navigation connected therewith, were restored in 1871 by the Treaty of Washington, so that the free and unfettered trade and commerce between the British possessions of America and the United States would be reciprocally beneficial, advantageous and satisfactory: Therefore:—

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.

“That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, requested to negotiate with the Government of Great Britain for a renewal and restoration of the provisions of the Treaty abrogated in 1866 as aforesaid, providing that all articles enumerated in said Treaty, being the growth or produce of the British Colonies of North America, or of the United States, should be admitted into each country respectively, free of duty.”