

terminate the same, each of the Contracting Parties being at liberty to give such notice to the other at the end of the said term of five years, or at any time afterwards.

In faith whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this Convention, and have hereunto affixed our seals.

Done in duplicate at Washington, this day of in the year of our Lord 1890.

3332.

No. 180.

SIR TERENCE O'BRIEN to LORD KNUTSFORD.
(Received February 14, 1891.)

TELEGRAPHIC.

HAVING been requested by both Houses of Legislature to communicate to you by telegram resolution passed by them, I have no option but to do so:—

"Whereas the Legislature has been informed by his Excellency the Governor, in the Speech with which his Excellency has been pleased to open the present Session, that Her Majesty's Government has up to this date declined to sign the convention for reciprocal trade between this Colony and the United States of America; and whereas the Legislature has been informed that on the 8th day of July, 1890, the Delegates appointed by the Government of this Colony to proceed to England to consult and advise with Her Majesty's Government in relation to the interests of this Colony proposed to Her Majesty's Government that this Colony should be permitted to negotiate through Her Majesty's Representative at Washington a convention for reciprocal trade with the United States of America; and whereas the Legislature has been informed that after lengthy consideration of this proposal Her Majesty's Government did on the 8th day of September last intimate to the said Delegates the acquiescence of Her Majesty's Government therein, and did consent to one of the said Delegates proceeding to Washington to lay before Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary the views of the Government of this Colony upon this question, and to aid in said negotiations; and whereas the Legislature has been informed that on the 18th day of November last Her Majesty's Government advised the immediate return of the Colonial Secretary to Washington with a view to concluding the said negotiation; and whereas the Legislature has been informed that on the 16th day of December a convention satisfactory to the Government of this Colony, and in accordance with that proposed by the said Delegates to and accepted by Her Majesty's Government, was agreed to by the United States Secretary of State on behalf of his Government, and Her Majesty's Government has not assented to the ratification, although most strongly urged thereto by the Government of this Colony; and whereas it is deemed of paramount importance that the said convention should be ratified without further delay:

"Be it resolved, that the consideration of his Excellency's Speech be deferred until there be an expression of opinion to be communicated to Her Majesty in relation thereto.

"Resolved, that the Legislature views with profound disappointment and alarm the failure of Her Majesty's Government to carry out its solemn obligations to this Colony. They are aware of the interference of Canada in relation to this matter, and they cannot fail to appreciate the same as a menace to the independence of the Colony; they emphatically protest against the interests of this Colony being made subservient to those of the Dominion of Canada, and they regard the delay that has occurred in the ratification of the said convention as entirely unjustifiable, and as evidencing an utter disregard for the prosperity and well-being of this Colony.

"Resolved, that the delay occasioned by Her Majesty's Government in ratifying the said convention is regarded by this Legislature as unfriendly and hostile, and as calculated to permanently disturb the loyalty for which this Colony has in the past been remarkable.

"Resolved, that the Legislature most strongly urges Her Majesty's Government to immediately fulfil its pledge to this Colony by ratifying the said convention."