

Appendix.

the words of the Treaty, and it is certain that Mr. Buchanan signed the Treaty with Mr. MacLane's despatch before him, and yet that he made no mention whatever of the "Canal de Haro as that through which the line of boundary should run, as understood by the United States' Government."

My own despatches of that period contain no observation whatever of a tendency contrary to what I thus state from memory, and they therefore so far plead in favour of the accuracy of my recollections.

No. 2.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MR. BANCROFT AND MR. BUCHANAN.

Mr. Bancroft to Mr. Buchanan.†

Sir,

London, November 3, 1846.

While in the Navy Department I caused a traced copy of Wilkes' chart of the Straits of Haro to be made. It not needed in the Navy Department, I request that the President will direct it to be sent to this Legation. It is intimated to me that questions may arise with regard to the islands east of the Strait. I ask your authority to meet any such claim at the threshold by the assertion of the contrary channel of the Straits of Haro as the main channel intended by the recent Treaty of Washington. Some of the islands I am well informed are of value.

Very respectfully, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE BANCROFT.

Hon. James Buchanan,
Secretary of State.

Mr. Buchanan to Mr. Bancroft.†

Sir,

Department of State, Washington, December 28, 1846.

I have obtained from the Navy Department, and now transmit to you, in accordance with the request contained in your despatch No. 1 (November 3), the traced copy of Wilkes' chart of the Straits of Haro. This will enable you to act understandingly upon any question which may hereafter arise between the two Governments in respect to the sovereignty of the islands situate between the Continent and Vancouver's Island. It is not probable, however, that any claim of this character will be seriously preferred on the part of Her Britannic Majesty's Government to any island lying to the eastward of the Canal of Haro, as marked in Captain Wilkes' Map of the Oregon Territory. This, I have no doubt, is the channel which Lord Aberdeen had in view when, in a conversation with Mr. MacLane about the middle of May last, on the subject of the resumption of the negotiation for an amicable settlement of the Oregon question, his Lordship explained the character of the proposition he intended to submit through Mr. Pakenham. As understood by Mr. MacLane, and by him communicated to the Department in his despatch of the 18th of the same month, it was—"First, to divide the territory to the extension of the line on the parallel of 49° to the sea; that is to say, to the arm of the sea called Birch's Bay, thence by the *Canal de Haro* and Straits of Fuca to the ocean," &c.

George Bancroft, Esq.,
&c., &c., &c.

I am, &c.
(Signed)

JAMES BUCHANAN.

[Inclosure: Chart of the Straits of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, &c. By the United States' Ex. Ex., 1841.]

No. 3.

LETTERS OF MR. CRAMPTON SUEWING MR. BUCHANAN'S OPINIONS.

Mr. Crampton to Viscount Palmerston.

(No. 2.)

My Lord,

Washington, January, 13, 1848.

On the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 21 of the 17th ultimo, by which I am instructed to communicate with the United States' Government with a view to the adoption of early measures laying down such parts of the line of boundary between the British and United States' territory in North America, described in the Convention of the 15th June, 1846, as the two Governments upon mutual consultation, deem it advisable to determine, I waited upon Mr. Buchanan for the purpose of putting him in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government upon the subject.

After having read to him your Lordship's despatch, together with the Draft of Instructions to two Commissioners to be appointed in case the views of Her Majesty's Government were coincided in by the Government of the United States, I proceeded to inquire of Mr. Buchanan whether the matter suggested by your Lordship of bringing the matter under the consideration of the President of the United States, by reading to him your Lordship's despatch and presenting to him a copy of the proposed Draft of Instructions, would be admissible.