

that the dispatch of the converted yacht "Frolic" to the Lakes had been suspended in consequence of representations made to the United States' Government, which were to the effect that it was undesirable to prejudge the questions then under discussion in the Commission.

The application in regard to the "Frolic" was renewed in January last by Mr. Hay, a copy of whose note was inclosed in Lord Pauncefote's despatch No. 8 of the 12th of that month. The Canadian Government have expressed their readiness to grant the necessary permission, on the understanding that the vessel shall be used on the Lakes for purposes of drill only, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies has informed Lord Salisbury that he sees no objection to this course, assuming that no exception is taken to it by the Admiralty and War Office.

I am now to request that the matter may be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and to state that, if their Lordships concur, Lord Pauncefote will be instructed to consent to the passage of the "Frolic" on the conditions mentioned in Mr. Hay's note, viz., that the vessel shall be taken to Cleveland, Ohio, without armament, and shall be used for drill only.

I am to ask that an early answer may be returned to this letter, in order to avoid any further delay.

A similar letter has been addressed to the War Office.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

#### No. 9.

*Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received March 17.)*

(Confidential.)

Sir,

*Admiralty, March 16, 1900.*

WITH reference to your letter of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of correspondence respecting the maintenance of war vessels on the Great Lakes of North America, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request you will inform the Secretary of State that they concur in the proposal to allow the United States' Government vessel "Frolic" to proceed via the Canadian Canals and the River St. Lawrence, to Cleveland, Ohio, without armament and to be employed as a drill ship only.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

#### No. 10.

*War Office to Foreign Office.—(Received March 20.)*

Sir,

*War Office, March 16, 1900.*

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for War to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, transmitting copies of correspondence relative to the maintenance of war vessels on the Great Lakes of North America, and to the passage of such vessels belonging to the United States through Canadian Canals.

In reply I am to acquaint you that Lord Lansdowne concurs in the proposal to consent to the passage of the "Frolic" through the canals, on the conditions mentioned in Mr. Hay's note, viz., that the vessel shall be taken to Cleveland, Ohio, without armament, and shall be used for drill purposes only.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) R. H. KNOX.