

The words, "in the course of the negotiations and," had better be omitted as a superfluous and possibly mischievous limitation.

But may [we?] understand that British Columbia fisheries, as distinct from Alaskan question, are included in the reference, and that any Treaty is subject to ratification by the Canadian Parliament?

No. 21.

*Foreign Office to Colonial Office.*

Sir.

*Foreign Office, October 17, 1887.*

I AM directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you a draft of instructions to Her Majesty's Plenipotentiaries at the Fisheries Conference which has been proposed upon the assumption that the terms of reference as at present arranged will not be altered; and I am to request that you will move Sir H. Holland to inform his Lordship whether he concurs therein.

I am to add that it is of urgent importance to learn as soon as possible who will be the Canadian Plenipotentiary in order that the necessary full powers may be prepared and submitted to the Queen.

I am to add that if any change should be made in the terms of reference, a corresponding change would be made in the instructions.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 22.

*Sir L. West to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received October 18.)*

(No. 103. Treaty.)

My Lord,

*Washington, October 3, 1887.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the accompanying extract from the "New York Tribune" relative to the gentlemen chosen by Mr. Bayard to assist him on the Fisheries Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

Inclosure in No. 22.

*Extract from the "New York Tribune" of September 30, 1887.*

#### THE AMERICAN NEGOTIATORS.

*Washington, September 29, 1887.*

THE President has invited William L. Putnam, of Maine, and James B. Angell, of Michigan, to act with the Secretary of State in the negotiation for a settlement with Great Britain of the dispute growing out of the questions connected with the rights of American fishermen in the territorial waters of the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland.

Both of these gentlemen have accepted, and it is believed by Secretary Bayard that their fitness for their important duty will be recognized by the country. Mr. Putnam has been the counsel for the United States for the last two years in cases arising under law and Treaty in connection with the fisheries disputes, and Mr. Angell is President of the University of Michigan, and has had experience in international transactions, having been one of the Commissioners by whom the latest Treaty with China was negotiated.

Mr. Putnam is a member of the Democratic party, and Mr. Angell of the Republican party. The Secretary said their selection was not only a recognition of the two political parties, but a geographical recognition. The interests of the Western States lying along the Canadian border were equally great with the interests of the New England States in securing a settlement of the difficulty with Canada.

From the information received here it is expected that Mr. Chamberlain will