

Foreign Office enclosing copies of two despatches from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington on the subject of the Alaska fisheries question.

I have, &c.,

H. T. HOLLAND.

Governor General, the Most Honorable the Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., &c.

From Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

FOREIGN OFFICE, 13th April, 1887.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 2nd instant, I am directed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to transmit to you, to be laid before Secretary Sir Henry Hoiland, copies of two despatches, as marked in the margin, on the subject of the Alaska fisheries question.

I am, &c.,

J. PAUNCEFOTE.

The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

Sir L. West to the Marquis of Salisbury.

WASHINGTON, 2nd April, 1887.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to inform Your Lordship that the Commander of the United States revenue cutter "Gallatin" has been cited to appear before the Admiralty Court in the Boston District to answer to the allegation that in June last while in command of the United States steamer "Corwin" he took by force from the American schooner "Sierra" her arms and ammunition at a point in the open sea thirty miles north of Ounalaska, while she was navigating the waters of the North Pacific Ocean on a hunting and fishing expedition, thus breaking up her voyage to the damage of the plaintiffs of \$22,500.

I have instructed Her Majesty's Consul at Boston to watch this case and report the decision of the court.

I have, &c.,

L. WEST.

The Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., &c.

Sir L. West to the Marquis of Salisbury.

WASHINGTON, 29th March, 1887.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to report to Your Lordship that the United States steamship "Thetis" has sailed from New York and will proceed round Cape Horn and up the west coast to Alaska. It is reported that the Secretary of the Treasury has received a letter from the Alaska Commercial Company complaining that private parties are taking seals in the waters about Alaska, and asking for more revenue cutters to be sent for their protection. The company further ask that the United States Government should prohibit all killing of seals within the eastern half of Behring's Sea, or from a point beginning at Behring's Straits and passing from the north-west end of St. Lawrence Island in a south-westerly direction to the island of Alton at the extreme westerly point of the Aleutian Archipelago.

I have, &c.,

L. S. S. WEST.

The Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., &c.

No. 115.

Sir H. T. Holland to Lord Lansdowne.

DOWNING STREET, 12th May, 1887.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to transmit to you, for communication to your Ministers, with reference to previous correspondence, a copy of a letter from the