

returning to England, and have instructed you to inform me by telegraph of the points objected to by the United States' Government, and of the grounds on which their objections have been raised.

I am, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY.

No. 19.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson's Instructions.—(Communicated to Lord Stanley by Mr. Reverdy Johnson, December 1, 1868.)

THE following amendments to British printed copy are essential in the Claims Treaty. Article 1st, line twenty, insert after "President," "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate." Same Article 1, second paragraph, strike out "London," and insert "Washington." Same Article 1, third page, strike out "save as otherwise provided in Article IV of this Convention."

Article IInd, strike out the last paragraph entire.

Article IV, strike out all after word "claims" in fourth line, or, if preferred, omit the whole of Article IV.

Article V. If Article IV is amended and changed as above proposed, Article V may stand without amendment. If Article IV is omitted entirely, then amend Article V, line two, by striking out the words "mentioned in the next preceding Article."

Article VI. Either omit the whole Article, or substitute the following therefor: In case of every claim the official correspondence which has taken place between the two Governments respecting the questions at issue shall be brought before the Commissioners, and in the event of their not agreeing to have decision thereupon, then before the arbitrator. Either Government may submit further evidence and further argument thereupon written or verbal.

Article IX. Strike out "twelve," and insert "eighteen."

Article XI, second paragraph. Strike out all after the word "the," and insert "the Representative of Her Britannic Majesty at Washington and the Secretary of State of the United States jointly."

If these amendments be not assented to, let San Juan remain in Protocol. If they are accepted, sign the Claims Convention and change San Juan Protocol into Convention, and sign the same.

Full go by post; but time is important.

No. 20.

Lord Stanley to Mr. Thornton.

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 8, 1868.

I UNDERSTAND from your telegraphic despatch of the 27th ultimo that Mr. Seward and the Cabinet of Washington disapprove of the Convention which the United States' Minister signed with me on the 10th ultimo, for the settlement of British and American claims, on the ground that it is not in accordance with the instructions sent to Mr. Johnson, and that they are confident that the Senate will refuse to sanction it. I have learnt from your further telegram received on the 30th ultimo the very important modifications which Mr. Seward wishes to be made in that agreement.*

I have received this intelligence with some surprise, as during the progress of our negotiations, Mr. Johnson at no time intimated to me that he was not acting under sufficient instructions from his Government; indeed, when framing with him the Memorandum which was the groundwork of, and is, in fact, embodied in the Convention, I distinctly understood from him that he thought their approval was certain, and subsequent to the signature of the Convention, I was further informed by him that Mr. Seward had stated in a telegraphic despatch that if the place of meeting of the Commission was Washington and not London, "all will be right." This point having been conceded, Her Majesty's Government had every reason to suppose that the Convention was in other respects accepted by the Cabinet of

* These are stated in No. 19.