

Inclosure in No. 20.

*Mr. Hay to Lord Pauncefote.**Department of State, Washington,
November 16, 1899.*

My dear Lord Pauncefote,

I AM in receipt of your unofficial note of the 14th instant, referring to the application made by the American Secretary of the Joint High Commission, Mr. Anderson, for copies of certain papers connected with the transactions of that Commission, and conveying the suggestion that its negotiations should remain secret.

I beg to state, in reply, that the only object had in view in the application of Mr. Anderson, was to perfect the record of the deliberations of the Commission, and that no action will be taken respecting the publication of the negotiations of the Commission without previous consultation with Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN HAY.