

Correspondence respecting the Negotiations with the United States' Government on the Questions of the "Alabama" and British Claims, Naturalization, and San Juan Water Boundary.

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No. 1.

*Lord Stanley to Mr. Thornton.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, February 15, 1868.*

MR. ADAMS communicated to me on the 15th instant some parts of a despatch which he had lately received, in which Mr. Seward expresses his wish that some means may be found of arranging the differences now existing between England and the United States. The questions causing these differences Mr. Seward enumerates as follows:--

- 1st. The Alabama claims.
- 2nd. The San Juan question.
- 3rd. The question of Naturalized Citizens; their rights and position.
- 4th. The Fishery question.

I noticed that among these the question of the Reciprocity Treaty with Canada was not included.

Any one of these questions, Mr. Seward said, might at any time, from accidental causes, occupy public attention, and give rise to exciting controversy.

Mr. Seward desired not to be understood as making any new proposition; but he repeated the suggestion which he had more than once offered, that the true method of dealing with all these matters was by treating them jointly, and endeavouring, by means of a Conference, to settle them all.

I told Mr. Adams, in reply, that no one could be more anxious than I was to see these troublesome disputes at an end; and that, acting under that feeling, I should be prepared to acquiesce in any plan of settlement that held out a reasonable probability of success; at the same time, I must add that I could not well understand what was to be the nature of the Conference suggested by Mr. Seward. How was it to be constituted? with what powers? where to be held? and what advantage did Mr. Seward suppose there would be in discussing simultaneously, instead of separately, a variety of matters, each of which was sufficiently intricate and perplexing when taken by itself? I expressed a hope that Mr. Seward might be induced further to develop his idea, which I assured him should meet with full and careful consideration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY.

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No. 2.

*Lord Stanley to Mr. Thornton.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, March 14, 1868.*

I RECEIVED on the 9th instant your telegram of the 8th, stating that Mr. Seward was desirous of concluding a Treaty between Great Britain and the United States, regulating the status and liabilities of the subjects and citizens of either country who may be naturalized in the other.

It appears from your further telegram of the 11th, that Mr. Seward, having received the Treaty recently signed on the same subject at Berlin, between Prussia