

Mr. Blaine replied in the negative, but begged me to ask Mr. Bond to call on him at his house before his departure, and appointed Monday morning, the 15th. Mr. Blaine said nothing about my coming also, and I understood that the object of the visit was only to wish Mr. Bond good-bye.

Mr. Bond called on me on the 16th and informed me, somewhat to my surprise, that he had had several long interviews with Mr. Blaine, which had resulted in the remodelling of the draft convention originally prepared by me, and he handed me a copy of a new draft, which he said would be most acceptable to Newfoundland, and which Mr. Blaine was prepared to accept also.

He was not sure, however, whether the words interpolated in Article II of the draft, namely, "and crude copper ores the product of Newfoundland mines," would be allowed to stand, but he was to see some members of the Chamber of Commerce of Boston on his way home, and would communicate with me further by telegram on the subject. I told Mr. Bond that I would keep the draft for reference in case Mr. Blaine should make any proposal to me founded upon it, but that I could take no cognizance of anything that might have passed between him and Mr. Blaine by way of negotiation in my absence. This Mr. Bond readily admitted, but said he had no doubt that Mr. Blaine would communicate the draft to me as a counter-proposal. I replied that in that case all I could do would be to transmit Mr. Blaine's communication to your Lordship. Mr. Bond dwelt very much on the hardship that would be inflicted on the Colony by any delay in accepting Mr. Blaine's proposal, and on the exasperation which would be produced there by the refusal of Her Majesty's Government to grant this measure of relief to the sorely tried colonists.

I explained to him that I had no power to move further in the matter, and he left for Halifax, on his way back to Newfoundland, on the same evening.

On the 18th Mr. Bond telegraphed to me from Boston as follows: "Please insert copper clause in Article II."

Mr. Blaine mentioned incidentally a few days ago that he would be glad to have a talk with me by-and-bye about Newfoundland, but that is all I have heard from him up to this date on the subject.

I enclose a copy of the draft handed to me by Mr. Bond, and which he stated had been virtually agreed to between Mr. Blaine and himself.

I have, &c.

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

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

DRAFT CONVENTION between GREAT BRITAIN and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the Improvement of COMMERCIAL RELATIONS between the UNITED STATES and HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S COLONY OF NEWFOUNDLAND.—(Received at the Foreign Office through Sir J. Pauncefote, January 7.)

THE Governments of Great Britain and of the United States, desiring to improve the commercial relations between the United States and Her Britannic Majesty's Colony of Newfoundland, have appointed as their respective plenipotentiaries, and given them full powers to treat of and conclude such convention, that is to say:

Her Britannic Majesty on her part has appointed Sir Julian Pauncefote, and the President of the United States has appointed, on the part of the United States, James G. Blaine, Secretary of State.

And the said plenipotentiaries, after having exchanged their full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to and concluded the following Articles:—

#### ARTICLE I.

United States fishing-vessels entering the waters of Newfoundland shall have the privilege of purchasing herring, caplin, squid, and other bait fishes at all times, on the same terms and conditions, and subject to the same penalties, in all respects, as Newfoundland vessels.

They shall also have the privilege of touching and trading, selling fish and oil, and procuring supplies, in Newfoundland, conforming to the Harbour Regulations, but without other charge than the payment of such light, harbour, and customs dues as are or may be levied on Newfoundland fishing-vessels.