

F. O. 1638,
America,
1835-68.

Foreign Office, October 28, 1867.

Draft.
Admiralty.

Sir A.
Buchanan,
Nos. 365, 366,
370.

SIR,—I am directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you to be laid before the Lords Commrs. of the Admiralty the accompanying copies of Despatches from H. M's Ambassador at St. Petersburg containing information with reference to the wish expressed in your letter of the 3rd instant that the Water Boundaries between the Russian possessions in America lately ceded to the United States and those of Great Britain should be clearly defined on a Chart.

Endorsed: Dft. Admiralty F.O. Oct. 28, 1867 Water Boundary between British and Russian America Copies of Sir A. Buchanan Nos. 365, 366 & 370 respy.

F. O. 1638,
America,
1836-68.

ST. PETERSBURGH, October 30, 1867.

No. 373

Memorandum ~~to~~ MY LORD:—With reference to my despatch No. 365 of the 23rd instant marked confidential, I regret to say that my fear has been realized that the Russian Government would decline acceding to the wishes of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty respecting the Water Boundary between the late possessions of Russia in America and those of Gt. Britain on the Pacific.

Prince Gortchacoff informed me today that he had communicated on the subject with the Minister of Marine and the chief of the Russian Topographical Department, and that the only information they had enabled him to give me, was contained in a Memorandum which he placed in my hands, and which I have the honour to enclose herewith. As his Excellency said that Water Boundaries were never traced on maps, I replied that I thought Governments generally attached maps to Treaties in cases like the present, in which such water Boundaries were traced; and as I asked whether the Boundary between the possessions ceded to the United States and the Asiatic territories of Russia had not been defined in this manner, I was surprised to receive an assurance from His Excellency, that such a measure had not been considered necessary.

I have the honour to be,

With the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordships, most obedient, humble servant,

ANDREW BUCHANAN.

The LORD STANLEY, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: 1867 St. Petersburg Oct: 30 Sir Andrew Buchanan No. 373 1 enclosure Recd. Novem: 4 per Messr from Berlin—Prince Gortchacoff states that Water Boundary was not marked between late Russian possns. in N. America and Asiatic Russian territory.