

Further Correspondence respecting the Behring Sea Seal
Fisheries.

No. 1.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Pouncefote.

(Telegraphic.)

Foreign Office, April 17, 1891.

BEHRING'S SEA. Mr. Blaine's suggestion, which you mention in your private letter of the 7th April, that, pending the award of the Arbitration on the Behring's Sea question, all seal fishery should be stopped, both by sea and land, seems worthy of consideration.

If we approve of it, would Mr. Blaine prefer that the proposal should come from us?

No. 2.

Sir J. Pouncefote to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 22.)

(Telegraphic.)

Washington, April 22, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Blaine left this city for the sea-side on the 15th. As the date of his return was uncertain, I addressed a letter to him on the 20th in the sense of your Lordship's telegram of the 17th, making the inquiry which I was therein instructed to make. I am now informed that his return is expected in a few days.

I am informed that it is in the power of the United States' Government to cancel the lease of the islands at any time.

I will lose no time in pressing Mr. Blaine to send me an answer with as little delay as possible.

No. 3.

Sir J. Pouncefote to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received April 23.)

(Telegraphic.)

Washington, April 23, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to report that the Secretary of State returned to Washington to-day, and invited me to call on him.

He expressed himself as gratified at the favourable consideration given by Her Majesty's Government to his alternative suggestion, and in answer to your Lordship's inquiry he said he would prefer that the proposal, which seemed to him very fair, should come from Her Majesty's Government.

He added that he wished, however, before going any further, to communicate the proposal by telegraph to-day to the President, who is absent from Washington.
