

the Royal Society, and were drawn up by a committee consisting of Sir John Herschel, Dr. Lloyd, the Dean of Ely, Dr. Whewell and myself.

"Perhaps your Lordship will wish to take the opinion of these four gentlemen (and possibly of others) on the question thus brought under your consideration. If there are additional details or information desired, I shall be most happy to supply them, as far as may be in my power.

"I have the honour to be,

"My Lord, your Lordship's obedient Servant,
(Signed) "EDWARD SABINE."

"The Earl of Rosse,
President of the Royal Society."

"2. From Lieut.-Colonel Sabine to the Earl of Rosse, P.R.S.

"Woolwich, October 22nd, 1850.

"MY LORD,—At a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held at Newhaven in the United States in August last, resolutions were adopted regarding the continuance of the Toronto Observatory, and the cooperation of the British Government in a system of Meteorological Observations in the North American Continent, of which the United States portion is to be carried on at the expense of the United States Government, under the Smithsonian Institution. It is intended, I understand, that these resolutions shall be communicated by the Government of the United States to ours, through the American Minister resident in London; and they will in such case, I presume, come into your Lordship's hands officially through Lord Palmerston. As however the question of the propriety of continuing the Toronto Observatory is now under the consideration of your Lordship, and of the gentlemen who formed the Magnetical and Meteorological Committee of the Royal Society, on the occasion of a letter which I had the honour to address to you at the close of the Session of the Society in June last, it has appeared to me most desirable to put your Lordship at once in possession of a copy of the resolutions which have been forwarded to me from the United States.

"I have the honour to be,

"My Lord, your Lordship's obedient Servant,
"EDWARD SABINE."

"The Earl of Rosse,
President of the Royal Society."

"Resolutions referred to in the preceding letters.

"At a Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Newhaven in the United States in August 1850, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted :—

"Resolved,—That in the foundation and maintenance of numerous Magnetical and Meteorological Observatories, the British Govern-