

Company, the Government, or of individuals, and whether going to or from the possessions of the Russian American Company, will be liable to capture by Her Majesty's ships, and that the coasts and ports of those possessions will be liable to naval blockade.

We have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient humble Servants,

J. D. HARDING.

A. G. COCKBURN.

RICHARD BETHELL.

To the Right Honourable
The Earl of Clarendon, K.G.,
&c, &c., &c.

ENDORSED—Law Officers.

D. 20th March, 1854.

Conditional assent to proposal of Hudson's Bay Company.

DRAFT TO ADMIRALTY.

(Confidential.)

F. O. March 22nd, 1854.

F. O.
Russia
Domestic.
Vol. 453.
February 28.

MY LORDS,

I transmit to your Lordships herewith a copy of a letter from the Hudson's Bay Company, inclosing a copy of a letter from the Russian American Company, suggesting that an arrangement should be entered into for a state of neutrality being observed as regards the possessions and ships of the Hudson's Bay and the Russian American Company on the north-west coast of America.

March 22.

I also enclose a copy of the answer which has been returned to the Hudson's Bay Company, and in conformity with what is stated in that answer I am to signify to your Lordships Her Majesty's pleasure that instructions should be given to Her Majesty's naval officers and others not to commit hostilities on land within the Russian dominions on the coast of America.

C.

ENDORSED—Correspondence with Hudson's Bay Company.

Instruction as to Russian dominions on American coast.