

9. It must not be assumed that the Ontario Act affected only American limit holders. On the contrary, nearly one-half of all the logs floated across the border were cut on limits owned by British subjects. Mr. Charlton himself, in company with his brother, was a large exporter of logs, and is therefore not a disinterested adviser on the subject.

10. Public opinion in Ontario would not sustain the Government in suspending the Act, and it is therefore unnecessary to submit Mr. Charlton's suggestion for their consideration, and, as Mr. Charlton has already received a discreet and proper answer from Mr. Tower, my Ministers do not consider that any further notice need be taken of the correspondence.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MINTO.

No. 19.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. Tower.

(No. 216. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 19, 1899.

MR. CHANDLER ANDERSON, the American Secretary of the Joint High Commission, has applied to his British colleague for a copy of the proposal handed to Lord Herschell on the 1st December by the United States' Commissioners with regard to naval vessels on the Great Lakes.

It appears that the text of this proposal, which was inclosed in Lord Herschell's despatch No. 14 of the 2nd December, 1898, was mislaid, or, at any rate, is not in the archives retained by Mr. Anderson.

A similar application has been made for a complete set of the letters which passed between Lord Herschell and Senator Fairbanks on the subject of the Alaska boundary.

Copies of all these papers have been sent to Mr. Anderson in accordance with his request, but he has been reminded that they are to be regarded as Confidential, and not for publication.

I inclose, for your convenience, the collection of documents which has been forwarded to Mr. Anderson, and I should wish you to speak to Mr. Hay on the subject. You should represent to him that, in view of the agreement between the Commissioners on either side that the negotiations should remain secret, Her Majesty's Government have not published any of the correspondence, and that they trust that the United States' Government will abide by this arrangement.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 20.

Lord Pauncefote to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 4.)

(No. 332.)

My Lord,

Washington, November 17, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 216, Confidential, of the 19th October, respecting the communication of certain papers to the American Secretary of the Joint High Commission, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a letter which I have received from Mr. Hay, stating that no action will be taken respecting the publication of the negotiations without previous consultation with Her Majesty's Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) PAUNCEFOTE.