

[Enclosure No. 2.]

*Mr. Bayard to Sir L. West.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, 11th of October, 1887.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge your note of the 29th ultimo, stating that Her Majesty's Government had been officially informed that the British vessels referred to in my note to you of the 3rd February last had not been released, and asking the reason for the delay in complying with the order of the executive in that regard.

Upon receiving your note I at once wrote my colleague the Attorney General as the head of the Department of Justice, in order that I might be enabled to reply satisfactorily to your enquiry.

I am still without an answer from him, which, when received, shall be promptly communicated to you.

In the meantime, in acknowledging your note, I take occasion to state my impression—that if the three vessels seized, and ordered to be released, have not been repossessed by their owners it is not because of any hindrance on the part of any official of this Government, or failure to obey the order for release, but probably because of the remoteness of the locality (Sitka) where they were taken after arrest for adjudication, and the proceedings having been *in rem*, the owners have not seen proper to proceed to Alaska and repossess themselves of the property in question.

I have, &amp;c.,

T. F. BAYARD.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

*Sir L. West to the Marquis of Salisbury.*

WASHINGTON, 12th October, 1887.

MY LORD,—With reference to your Lordship's despatch, No. 220, of the 15th ultimo, respecting the judicial proceedings in the cases of the schooners "Carolina," "Onward" and "Thornton," I have the honor to refer to the memoranda contained in my despatches, No. 261, of the 8th, and No. 263, of the 9th September. From what I can ascertain, the notice of appeal in these cases is still lying in the Sitka court, for there is no court to which, under the Act of Congress, the injured parties could appeal, and as in the case of the American vessel "San Diego," no further steps can be taken in the matter.

I have, &amp;c.,

L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

*Sir L. West to the Marquis of Salisbury.*

WASHINGTON, 12th October, 1887.

MY LORD,—In accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch, No. 229, of the 27th ultimo, I addressed a note to the Secretary of State, Enclosure No. 2 copy of which I have the honor to enclose herewith, making similar of No. 24. representations respecting the seizure of the British vessels "Grace," "Dolphin" and "W. P. Sayward," as were made in the cases of the "Onward," "Carolina" and "Thornton," and reserving all rights to compensation on behalf of the owners and crews.

I have, &amp;c.,

L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.