

The Marquis of Ripon to Lord Stanley of Preston.

DOWNING STREET, 16th February, 1893.

Governor-General, &c., &c., &c.

MY LORD.—I have the honour to transmit to you, for the information of Your Lordship's Government, a copy of a letter from the Foreign Office enclosing a despatch from the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, reporting the successful termination of the negotiations with France in regard to Canadian trade and expressing his sense of the able manner in which these negotiations were conducted by Sir Charles Tupper and Sir Joseph Crowe.

I have, &c., &c.,
RIPON.

FOREIGN OFFICE, 10th February, 1893.

The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.

SIR.—With reference to the previous correspondence on the subject of negotiations with France in regard to Canadian trade, I am directed by the Earl of Rosebery to request that you will inform the Marquis of Ripon that those negotiations have been brought to a successful conclusion, copies in print of the agreement signed and the notes exchanged, on the 6th instant, will shortly be forwarded to you. In the meantime I transmit a copy of a despatch from Lord Dufferin expressing his sense of the able manner in which the negotiations were conducted by Sir Charles Tupper and Sir Joseph Crowe.

I am to add that Lord Rosebery proposes to present to Parliament the correspondence on this subject.

I have, &c., &c.,
E. GREY.

P.S.—A proof of the proposed Parliamentary Paper will in due course be communicated to Lord Ripon.

E. G.

PAULS, 6th February, 1893.

The Earl of Rosebery, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

MY LORD.—The commercial negotiations with France in reference to its trade with the Dominion of Canada having been successfully terminated by the signature of the arrangement which I have had the honour to transmit to Your Lordship in my Despatch No. 45 Commercial of this day, I think it is incumbent upon me to call Your Lordship's attention to the skill displayed by Sir Charles Tupper and Sir Joseph Crowe in the long and difficult negotiations which they have carried on with the delegates of the French Government.

Owing to the objections existing in this country to any kind of commercial arrangements which may interfere with the liberty of the French Parliament to impose at any moment such duties as they may think necessary for the protection of its industries, it appeared at the outset very doubtful if these negotiations would come to a successful termination. The conciliatory spirit, however, shown on both sides has, I am happy to say, falsified these expectations, and I have no hesitation in saying that the conclusion of the arrangement is largely owing to the ability displayed by our negotiators.

Sir Charles Tupper has expressed to me how greatly he is indebted to Sir Joseph Crowe for the kind and considerate attention he has devoted to the matter, and for the very able and judicious manner in which Sir Joseph has aided the negotiations with the French representatives.

I have, &c., &c.,
DUFFERIN AND AVA.