

## French Treaty.

(Telegram.)

OTTAWA, 22nd April, 1895.

To TUPPER, London.

Legislation *re* French Treaty will be proceeded with immediately.

BOWELL.

(Cablegram.)

LONDON, 18th April, 1895.

To BOWELL, Ottawa.

Immediate ratification French Treaty very important British Columbia wool trade colonial office advise passage short act immediately extending similar duties other countries when treaty ratified Governor General to cable when act passed date of ratification will then be promptly arranged with France and Canada notified so that proclamation can be issued by Governor General bringing treaty into operation same time.

TUPPER.

*Colonial Office to the Earl of Aberdeen.*

DOWNING STREET, 8th April, 1895.

Governor General.

MY LORD,—With reference to previous correspondence respecting the convention with France relative to trade with Canada, I have the honour to transmit to you for communication to your ministers copies of correspondence with the High Commissioner respecting the ratification of the convention.

I have, &c.,

KIMBERLY.

VICTORIA CHAMBERS, 17 VICTORIA STREET,  
LONDON, S.W., 8th March, 1895.

The Hon. Sir ROBERT MEADE, K.C.B.,  
Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

DEAR SIR ROBERT MEADE,—As you are aware the Marquess of Ripon sent a despatch (telegram?) some time ago to the Governor General expressing a wish that no proclamation should issue, bringing the French Treaty into operation, until he had an assurance from his Ministers that the products of foreign countries entitled to most favoured nation treatment, and those of British dependencies, would be admitted on the same terms as those from France under the treaty.

An Order in Council was subsequently passed, giving the necessary assurance, and stating in effect that the act relating to the treaty would be amended in that sense as soon as Parliament met. An Order in Council was, as you are aware, also passed on the 23rd of January, asking an assurance from the Secretary of State for the Colonies that the French Treaty would not prevent greater concession being granted to any of the colonies without France being entitled to participate in such concession. I have since received a letter—of which I enclose copy—from the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and yesterday the following telegram from the Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce reached me :—

“Minister requests you to expedite reply from C. O. to despatch sent in reference to Order in Council No. 210. Explain Mr. Buxton's reply to Sir G. Baden Powell on the 4th *re* French Treaty.”

It is obvious from these communications, that the Canadian Government is desirous of immediately issuing the proclamation bringing the French Treaty into force. I