

tinuance on the high seas of similar proceedings by the authorities of the United States.

With regard to the report that it had been stated by Mr. Bayard that no protest had been made against the right of those authorities to make the seizures, and that it had therefore been assumed that Her Majesty's Government did not really dispute the right, I am to remind you that Sir L. West, acting on the instructions which were given to him by the late Earl of Idlesleigh on the 20th of October, 1886, addressed a note to the United States Secretary of State protesting in the name of Her Majesty's Government against the seizure of the three Columbian schooners "Thorn-ton," "Onward" and "Caroline" by the United States revenue cruiser "Corwin." This correspondence was forwarded with my letter of the 16th of November last.

I am further to point out that the directions given to Sir L. West in regard to subsequent seizures of other British vessels in Behring's Sea during the present fishing season which were embodied in Lord Salisbury's despatches, Nos. 219 and 229 of the 10th and 27th ultimo (copies of which were also communicated to you on those dates respectively) amount to a protest against the assumption by the United States Government of their right to seize British vessels on the high seas in those waters.

I am to request that in laying this letter before Sir H. Holland, you will move him to ascertain by telegraph whether the report of Mr. Foster (the Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries) of the 15th ultimo, has been communicated by Lord Lansdowne, with the papers attached, to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington as suggested in the report.

On learning that this has been done, Lord Salisbury proposes to authorize Sir L. West to give a copy of them to Mr. Bayard.

I am, &c.,

J. PAUNCEFOTE.

*Sir H. Holland to Lord Lansdowne.*

DOWNING STREET, 16th November, 1887.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to transmit to you, for communication to your Ministers, with reference to your despatches of the numbers and dates, No. 408, 20th October, No. 372, 26th September, telegram, 23rd September, the accompanying printed correspondence received from the Foreign Office respecting the seizure of the British Columbian sealing vessels in Behring Sea.

I have, &c.,

H. T. HOLLAND.

Governor General the Most Honorable the Marquis of Lansdowne, K.C.M.G.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

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

WASHINGTON, 12th October, 1887.

MY LORD,—In accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram, No. 39, of the 27th ultimo, I addressed a note to the Secretary of State, copy of which I had the honor to enclose to your Lordship in my despatch, No. 273, of the 28th ultimo, inquiring the reason why the vessels referred to in his note of the 3rd February last had not been released, and I now enclose copy of the reply which I have received thereto.

I have, &c.,

L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.