

LIST OF PAPERS—Continued.

From and to whom.	Date.	Subject.	From and to whom.
Mr. Blaine to Sir J. Pauncefote...	1892. Feb. 4	States that commissioners have been appointed to investigate and report, conjointly with British commissioners, upon facts relative to preservation of seal life; will be ready to confer informally with British colleagues at their convenience.	J. Pauncefote
Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Blaine...	Feb. 6	Note of February 4 acknowledged. States that Sir Baden-Powell and Prof. Dawson have been appointed commissioners in the matter of the preservation of seal life and trusts that arrangements will be made at once for the meeting of the commission on Monday, 8th instant.	Wharton to fote.
Mr. Blaine to Sir J. Pauncefote...	Feb. 6	Regrets that the British commissioners are men who have already publicly expressed an opinion as to the merits of the question, but hopes this will not prevent a fair and impartial investigation. Supposed that before this the arbitration convention would be signed and thus have enabled the commissioners to proceed officially to a discharge of their duties, but as it became necessary to await approval of the draft of the instrument has interposed no objection to preliminary conferences.	
Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Blaine...	Feb. 8	Deprecates the intimation that the British commissioners may be biased by previous public expressions of opinion; presents the defense of both of them; remarks that the same observation might be urged in the case of the American commissioners, and expresses satisfaction that the course adopted is in accord with that suggested by him in the note dated April 29, 1890.	
Mr. Blaine to Sir J. Pauncefote...	Feb. 9	The British commissioners wishing to postpone joint conferences until arbitration convention shall have been signed, the United States commissioners have been instructed to make known their readiness to proceed without further delay, the United States Government regarding the convention as substantially agreed upon.	RESPOND
Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Blaine...	Feb. 11	Acknowledges above; makes mention of two preliminary conferences, and says the British commissioners hope to arrange for the formal opening of their session.	From a
Mr. Blaine to Sir J. Pauncefote...	Feb. 12	Refused to discuss <i>modus vivendi</i> by the British commissioners; the value of the work of the commission will be diminished thereby. What is the scope of the duties of the British commissioners?	Mr. Phelps
Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Blaine...	Feb. 13	He is awaiting instructions of Lord Salisbury, to whom the draft of arbitration convention inclosed in the note of February 4 has been forwarded.	Mr. White t
Same to same	Feb. 19	No opinion can be expressed by the British Government as to the <i>modus vivendi</i> question raised in the interview of the 2d instant, until they know what is proposed.	Mr. Lincoln
Mr. Blaine to Sir J. Pauncefote...	Feb. 24	Urges the necessity of a <i>modus vivendi</i> ; the terms should be similar to those of last year, but better executed; asks that the contents of this note be transmitted by telegraph, every day of delay involving great trouble to both governments.	Same to sam
Same to same	Feb. 26	Sealing schooners are reported by United States consul at Victoria to have cleared to the number of forty-six with six or seven more to go, as against thirty same date last year. The need of an agreement will soon be over if it is not arrived at soon.	Same to sam
Same to same	Feb. 27	Fixes the 29th as the day on which to sign the treaty of arbitration.	
Sir J. Pauncefote to Mr. Blaine...	Feb. 29	Reply to the note of the 24th. Lord Salisbury does not admit that the delays have been greater on the part of Great Britain; the British commissioners have reported that there is no danger of a serious diminution of the seals, and therefore the necessity of a <i>modus vivendi</i> is not apparent. Still he would not object to the prohibition limited to a zone not more than 30 miles around the Pribilof Islands, provided the catch on the islands be limited to 30,000. The simile of trees would be more appropriate if applied to grass, which, like the seals, will be reproduced next year if out this year, pending the result of arbitration.	Same to sam