

No. 13.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir L. West.

(No. 69. Treaty. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 11, 1887.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 98, Treaty, marked Very Confidential, of the 21st ultimo, in which you report the objection entertained by Mr. Bayard to the term "Commissioners," as applied to the Plenipotentiaries to be appointed for the forthcoming discussion of the Fisheries question.

In reply, I have to request you to inform Mr. Bayard that Mr. Phelps in his interview with me certainly used the word "Plenipotentiaries or Commissioners," and that I had consequently imagined the choice between the two words to be indifferent to the United States' Government.

Mr. Phelps no doubt merely intended to explain the kind of duties which the Plenipotentiaries would have to discharge; and I beg that you will assure Mr. Bayard that Her Majesty's Government will carefully bear in mind the wishes expressed by him as to the designation of the negotiators.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 14.

*Foreign Office to Colonial Office.**Foreign Office, October 11, 1887.*

[Transmits copies of Sir L. West's No. 98, Treaty, of September 21; and No. 69, Treaty, to ditto, dated October 11, 1887: *ante*, Nos. 3 and 13.]

No. 15.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 13.)

Sir,

Downing Street, October 12, 1887.

WITH reference to your letter of the 8th instant, and to mine of this day's date, I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquis of Salisbury, a copy of a telegram from the Governor of Newfoundland, inquiring whether any agreement which may result from the Fisheries Conference will be subject to ratification by the Legislature of that Colony.

I am to inquire what answer should be returned to this telegram.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

Inclosure in No. 15.

Governor Blake to Sir H. Holland.

(Telegraphic.)

(Received October 10, 1887.)

BEFORE I reply to your telegram [I] wish to know if the Agreement entered into by the proposed Commission must be submitted for ratification by the Legislature of Canada and Newfoundland.

No. 16.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 13.)

Sir,

Downing Street, October 12, 1887.

WITH reference to your letter of the 8th instant relating to the terms of reference to the Conference at Washington on the North American Fisheries question,