

And whereas the United States of America have, in accordance with the terms of the said Treaty, given notice for the termination thereof; and whereas in consequence of such notice the said Treaty will expire on the 17th day of March, 1866 :

And whereas under the said Treaty many persons, citizens of the United States of America, have invested moneys and fitted out ships for the purpose of carrying on the (inshore) fisheries within the territory of Canada under the said Treaty :

And whereas they may be unaware that their right to carry on such inshore fisheries will end on the said 17th day of March :

We, therefore, in our great desire to prevent injury or loss to our loving subjects, or to the citizens of a State with which we are happily in amity, do in this our Royal Proclamation caution and warn all persons not subjects of our realm, that after the said 17th day of March next no vessels owned and manned in the United States of America can pursue the inshore fisheries without rendering themselves liable to the confiscation of their vessels, and such other penalties, pecuniary and personal, as are by law imposed.

No. 13.

*Sir F. Bruce to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received March 9.)*

My Lord,

*Washington, February 22, 1866.*

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a note I addressed to Mr. Seward, stating the course Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to take if the Government of the United States were disposed to negotiate a fresh Reciprocity Treaty in the place of the one which expires on the 17th of next March.

Also a copy of Mr. Seward's reply, in which he dwells on the sentiment of Congress, and the constitutional objections to Treaties of this nature as the reasons which induce the United States' Government to decline negotiating, and to leave the question of reciprocal trade with the provinces to be dealt with as Congress may decide.

I have informed Lord Monck of the result of my communications with this Government on the subject.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) **FREDERICK W. A. BRUCE.**

Inclosure 1 in No. 13.

*Sir F. Bruce to Mr. Seward.*

Sir,

*Washington, February 16, 1866.*

AS the Reciprocity Treaty is about to expire, I am anxious to report in a formal shape the disposition of the Government of the United States with reference to the important question of its renewal, and I therefore submit for consideration the following proposals, which embody the views of Her Majesty's Government with respect to it.

Her Majesty's Government have seen with much satisfaction the increase of the trading relations between the United States and the British provinces which has grown up under the Treaty, and the beneficial results of the stipulations it contains, by virtue of which each Contracting Party enjoys the uninterrupted use of the facilities of transport to the seaboard possessed by the other, and participates side by side in the fisheries, without restriction or interference.

Her Majesty's Government would be well content to renew the Treaty in its present form.

At the same time they are ready to reconsider the Treaty in conjunction with the Government of the United States, if such a course would be agreeable to them, and so to modify its terms as to render it, if possible, more beneficial to both countries than it has hitherto been.

If the Government of the United States should feel disposed to adopt the latter course, an arrangement of a provisional character might be entered into with a view to afford time for fresh negotiations, and I should take pleasure in submitting