

No. 21. relating to the question of the release of the British Columbia sealing vessels seized by the United States authorities in Behring Sea.

This telegram appears to relate to the vessels seized last year.

I am to request to be informed of any communication which may be made to the United States Government in order that a reply may be sent to the Governor General.

I am, &c.,

JOHN BRAMSTON.

*Sir H. Holland to Lord Lansdowne.*

DOWNING STREET, 8th October, 1887.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to transmit to you for the information of your Government, with reference to previous correspondence, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, dated the 23rd ult., on the subject of Behring Sea seizures and to the question of bringing before the Fisheries Commission the Alaska seal fishery question.

I have, &c.,

JOHN BRAMSTON,

*For the Secretary of State.*

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

BRITISH LEGATION, WASHINGTON, 23rd September, 1887.

MY LORD,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Lordship's despatch, No. 219, of the 10th instant, and to inform Your Lordship that I communicated it this day to the Secretary of State and at his request left a copy of it in his hands.

I have, &c.,

L. S. WEST.

The Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., &c.,

No. 81.

*Sir L. S. West to Lord Lansdowne.*

WASHINGTON, 14th October, 1887.

MY LORD,—With reference to my telegram of this day's date I have the honor to enclose to Your Excellency copy of a note which I have received from the Secretary of State expressing regret that the misconception which has arisen of the intentions and orders of the President for the release of the British schooners "Onward," "Carolina" and "Thornton" should have delayed their prompt execution and stating that renewed orders have been forwarded.

I have, &c.,

L. S. SACKVILLE WEST.

His Excellency the Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., &c.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

*Mr. Bayard to Sir L. S. West.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, 13th October, 1887.

SIR,—Continuing my reply to your note of the 29th ultimo, enquiring the reason for the delay in complying with the order issued in January last, for the release of British vessels seized last year in Behring Sea, I beg leave to inform you that I have this day received a communication from my colleague, the Attorney General, informing me that his telegram to the United States marshal at Sitka, of 26th January last, ordering the release of the British schooners "Onward," "Carolina" and