

in the present Treaty, and, at the same time, secure and extend the real benefits that have already accrued to both countries under the existing Treaty."

Her Majesty's Government are quite willing to reconsider the Reciprocity Treaty in conjunction with the Government of the United States, to negotiate for a renewal of it, and so to modify its terms as to render it, if possible, even more beneficial to both countries than it has hitherto been.

But before any modifications of that Treaty can be considered, Her Majesty's Government must be informed whether the notice given by Mr. Adams, in terms so peremptory, is intended to put an end to the Treaty, or whether it leaves open the door to negotiation.

In the former case Her Majesty's Government can only regret that relations which, by conciliatory communications, might be rendered more intimate, more friendly, and more beneficial, should be broken and interrupted by the Government of the United States.

In the latter case you will ask Mr. Seward to inform you in detail of the points upon which modification of the Treaty is desired. You will, in this case, communicate with the Governor-General of Canada, as well as report to Her Majesty's Government, before you express any opinion to Mr. Seward upon the suggestions he may make.

No. 4.

*Mr Burnley to Earl Russell.—(Received March 25.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, March 9, 1865.*

MR. SEWARD requested me to say to your Lordship that, with a view of still further inaugurating a more friendly policy with Her Majesty's Government, they were perfectly willing, as the season advanced, to enter into negotiations for a remodelling of the Reciprocity Treaty on terms which might prove, he hoped, advantageous and beneficial to both parties.

I communicated by to-day's mail with the Governor-General of Canada on the subject.

No. 5.

*Sir F. Bruce to Earl Russell.—(Received June 23.)*

(Extract.)

*Washington, June 7, 1865.*

THE illness of Mr. Seward and the pressure of business thrown upon this Government by the assassination of the President and the sudden collapse of the Confederate Government, have made it impossible to execute hitherto your Lordship's instructions to obtain a statement of the points in the Treaty which the United States wish to submit to fresh negotiation.

No. 6.

*Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce.*

Sir,

*Foreign Office, July 8, 1865.*

I HAVE to acquaint you that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has suggested, and I have expressed my concurrence in the suggestion, that the Governors of the Lower Provinces of British North America should be placed in communication with you, in order that they may furnish you with such information as you may require when the negotiation for a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty takes place.

I am, &c.  
(Signed) RUSSELL.