

"Sir, " *Treasury Department, September 19, 1854.*
 "The Vth Article of the Reciprocity Treaty with Great Britain provides that 'the present Treaty shall take effect as soon as the laws required to carry it into operation shall have been passed by the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and by the Provincial Parliaments of those of the British North American Colonies which are affected by this Treaty, on the one hand, and the United States on the other;' and the VIth Article provides the Treaty shall not embrace Newfoundland until the provincial Parliament of Newfoundland and the Congress of the United States shall pass laws to that effect.

"It is understood that the Imperial Parliament and the Congress of the United States have passed the necessary laws to carry the Treaty into effect, including Newfoundland; but that the Parliaments of none of the British North American Colonies have as yet acted upon the subject, and some of them will not be in Session for several months.

"The navigation of the St. Lawrence and the fisheries, being considered Imperial rights, have been conceded to the United States by Great Britain in advance of the proper legislation by the Colonies; but that has no effect upon the Tariff of the Colonies, which can only be taken away by their legislation, and the legislation of the United States has been made dependent upon their action. The Tariff laws will therefore be in force as though the Treaty had not been made, until the British Colonies shall legislate upon the subject in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty. Their legislation will, of course, be communicated to the Government of the United States, and, when so communicated, will be made public, and the proper notice given as to cessation of duties.

"I am, &c.
 (Signed) "JAMES GUTHRIE,
"Secretary of the Treasury.

"H. J. Redfield, Esq., Collector, &c. New York."

No. 47.

Mr. Elliot to Mr. Hammond.—(Received October 10.)

Sir, *Downing Street, October 10, 1854.*
 I AM directed by Secretary Sir George Grey to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Clarendon, the copy of a despatch from the Governor of Canada, inclosing the copy of a letter from the Acting Secretary of State of the United States' Government on the subject of the opening of the navigation of the River Saint Lawrence to American vessels.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) T. FREDK. ELLIOT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 47.

The Earl of Elgin to Sir G. Grey.

Sir, *Government House, Quebec, September 9, 1854.*
 WITH reference to my despatch of the 19th ultimo, on the subject of the opening of the navigation of the River St. Lawrence, and canals pertaining thereto, to American vessels, I have the honour to inclose the copy of a letter which I have received from the Acting Secretary of State of the United States' Government.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) ELGIN AND KINCARDINE.

Inclosure 2 in No. 47.

Mr. Hunter to the Earl of Elgin.

My Lord, *Department of State, Washington, August 26, 1854.*
 I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's note of the 19th instant, in which your Lordship acquaints the Secretary of State that you had ordered the River St. Lawrence to be thrown open to American vessels, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Government, pending the action of the Imperial and Provincial Legislatures