

to do more than to refer you to the note which I had the honour to address to you on the 12th of May last, in pursuance of the orders of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State.

In that note, after informing you that instructions would shortly be sent to me to communicate with you, in the hope of arriving at a satisfactory settlement on the subject of the respective claims of Great Britain and the United States to the Island of San Juan, I wrote as follows:—

"I am desired to add, that Her Majesty's Government are sure that the Cabinet of Washington would regret, as much as themselves, that any local collision should arise in the interval, which would tend to embitter a discussion which might otherwise be conducted with cordiality and goodwill. Her Majesty's Government trust, therefore, that the citizens of the United States will be restrained, as far as the institutions of the Government admit of their being so, from attempts to settle, by unauthorized acts of violence, a question which there will probably be little difficulty in arranging by amicable communication between the two Governments."

I have not had the honour to receive from you an answer to the note just quoted, and I am on that account the more earnest in requesting you to enable me to send, as speedily as possible, satisfactory information to Her Majesty's Government on the subject. I am so anxious on this point, that I venture to remind you that I shall dispatch a messenger from this Legation on Monday next, the 5th instant (the day after to-morrow), at half-past 1 o'clock, to meet the Royal mail steam-packet at Boston.

I have, &c.

(Signed) LYONS.

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Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

*Extract from the "New York Herald."*

VICTORIA dates are to August 6. The Island of San Juan, between Vancouver's Island and the mainland, claimed by our Government as part of Washington territory, had been occupied by sixty United States' troops by order of General Harney. Governor Douglas had issued a protest, claiming the island for the British Crown, and had also dispatched some armed vessels and 200 Sappers and Miners there. The United States' vessels "Massachusetts," "Jeff. Davis," "Shubrick," and "Active," and British vessels "Tribune," "Satellite," and "Plumper," were either anchored off the island or in its immediate vicinity. It was unofficially stated at Victoria that the matter would be compromised by the joint occupancy of the island, until the British and United States' Governments could be advised of the existing state of affairs. General Harney was expected at San Juan on the 5th of August.

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No. 7.

*Lord J. Russell to Lord Lyons.*

(No. 67.)

My Lord,

*Foreign Office, September 22, 1859.*

I HAVE received and laid before the Queen your Lordship's despatches from No. 162 to No. 175 inclusive, of the 5th instant.

With regard to your despatch No. 174, containing information respecting the recent occupation of the Island of San Juan by the United States' troops, it is satisfactory as to the past to learn that General Harney did not act, on that occasion, upon any order from the Government at Washington, but entirely on his own responsibility.

But, as to the future, it is not satisfactory that your note of the 12th May should have remained without an answer.

You are instructed to press for an immediate answer to that note, and that instructions should be sent to the United States' officers not to