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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1854.

BLOCKADE.—NOTIFICATION.

Foreign-Office, Downing-Street, September 28, 1854.

IT is hereby notified, that on and from the 12th day of August last, all Russian ports, roads, havens, and creeks, from Cape Swiatoi Nos, in long. 39° 47' east, latitude 68° 10' north, to Cape Kanin, in long. 43° 32' east, lat. 68° 39' 12" north, including especially the Ports of Arkangel and Onega, were placed in a state of strict Blockade by a competent force of the Allied British and French Fleets.

And it is hereby further notified, that all measures authorized by the Laws of Nations, and the respective Treaties between Her Majesty and the different Neutral Powers, will be adopted and executed with respect to all vessels which may attempt to violate the said Blockade.

Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America, relative to Fisheries, and to Commerce and Navigation.

Signed at Washington, June 5, 1854.

[*Ratifications exchanged at Washington, September 9, 1854.*]

HER Majesty the Queen of Great Britain, being equally desirous with the Government of the United States, to avoid further misunderstanding between their respective subjects and citizens in regard to the extent of the right of fishing on the coasts of British North America, secured to each by Article I of a Convention between Great Britain and the United States, signed at London on the 20th day of October, 1818; and being also desirous to regulate the commerce and navigation between their respective territories and people, and more especially between Her Majesty's possessions in North America and the United States, in such manner as to render the same reciprocally beneficial and satisfactory, have respectively named Plenipotentiaries to confer and agree thereupon; that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Lord Bruce and Elgin, a Peer of the United Kingdom, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, and Governor-General in and over all Her Britannic Majesty's Provinces on the Continent of North

America, and in and over the Island of Prince Edward;

And the President of the United States of America, William L. Marcy, Secretary of State of the United States;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following Articles:

ARTICLE I.

It is agreed by the High Contracting Parties, that in addition to the liberty secured to the United States' fishermen by the above-mentioned Convention of October 20, 1818, of taking, curing, and drying fish on certain coasts of the British North American Colonies therein defined, the inhabitants of the United States shall have, in common with the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty, the liberty to take fish of every kind, except shell-fish, on the sea-coasts and shores, and in the bays, harbours, and creeks of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island, and of the several islands thereunto adjacent, without being restricted to any distance from the shore; with permission to land upon the coasts and shores of those colonies and the islands thereof, and also upon the Magdalon Islands, for the purpose of drying their nets and curing their fish: provided that in so doing they do not interfere with the rights of private property, or with British fishermen in the peaceable use of any part of the said coast in their occupancy for the same purpose.

It is understood that the above-mentioned liberty applies solely to the sea fishery, and that the salmon and shad fisheries, and all fisheries in rivers and the mouths of rivers, are hereby reserved exclusively for British fishermen.

And it is further agreed that in order to prevent or settle any disputes as to the places to which the reservation of exclusive right to British fishermen contained in this Article, and that of fishermen of the United States contained in the next succeeding Article, apply, each of the High Contracting Parties, on the application of either to the other, shall, within six months thereafter, appoint a Commissioner. The said Commissioners, before proceeding to any business, shall make and subscribe a solemn declaration that they will impartially and carefully examine and decide, to the best of their judgment, and according to justice and equity, without fear, favour, or affection to their own country, upon all such places as are