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Foreign Office, January 7, 1895. COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH PAIN.

THE Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received the following Despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid :-MY LORD,

Madrid, January 2, 1895. I HAVE now the honour to inclose a copy of my note to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs confirming the commercial agreement between the United Kingdom and Spain, together with a copy and translation of His Excellency's

The original note from Señor Groizard will be forwarded to your Lordship by the first safe opportunity. I have, &c..

H. DRUMMOND WOLFF. (Signed) The Earl of Kimberley, K.G., &c., &c., &c.

> Enclosure 1. Madrid, December 28, 1894.

Monsieur le Ministre,

CIRCUMSTANCES having impeded the further negotiations for a definite Commercial Treaty, the Government of Her Majesty, my August Sovereign, are prepared to record in a more formal manner the understanding now existing * between the United Kingdom and Spain for the regulation of their mutual commercial relations. They understand that this course will for many reasons be convenient to the Government of His Catholic Majesty.

It is therefore understood between the two Governments that they maintain the agreement entered into between them in the month of June last, by the note addressed by me to Your Excellency's predecessor on the 20th of June, 1894, and the note I had the honour to receive from Señor Moret under date of the 29th of the same month. Such agreement shall remain in force until a permanent Treaty be concluded, or unless it be terminated by one of the parties, who shall with this object give the other a notice of six months.

As before, it is agreed that it shall be open to any British Colony to withdraw from the present agreement, on notice to that effect being given by Her Majesty's Ambassador at Madrid to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs within six months after the date of its signature.

I avail, &c., (Signed) H. D. WOLFF. His Excellency Señor Groizard.

Enclosure 2.

(Translation.) Ministerio de Estado. Palacio, 29 de Diciembre do 1894.

MONSIEUR L'AMBASSADEUR,
I HAVE had the honour to receive the note which your Excellency communicated to me on the 28th instant, to the effect that circumstances having impeded the continuation of the negotia-tions for a definitive Treaty of Commerce between Spain and the United Kingdom, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty is prepared to record, in a more formal manner, the understanding now existing for the regulation of their commercial

The Government of His Catholic Majesty, who believe that this understanding will be, for various reasons, equally convenient to that of Her Britannic Majesty, consider that the agreement entered into by exchange of notes under date of the 20th and 29th of June last, between your Excellency and my predecessor, Señor Moret, is maintained until the conclusion of a definitive Treaty, unless it be terminated by one of the High Contracting Parties, who, with this object, give to the other a notice of six months.

As before, it is agreed that it shall be open to any British Colony to withdraw from the present agreement on notice to that effect being given by the Ambassador at Madrid to the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs within six months after the date of its signature.

I avail, &c., ALEJANDRO GROIZARD. (Signed)

* The following is the understanding now existing between Great Britain and Spain referred to in Sir H. Wolff's above despatch and made public in July, 1894.

"Under the provisions of an Act recently passed by the Spanish Cortes, goods arriving in Spain and her Colonies from the United Kingdom and the British Colonies will continue to receive the same treatment as heretofore, namely, in the Peninsula and the adjacent islands the Minimum Tariff, together with the advantages conceded by Treaty to Switzerland, Sweden and Norway, and the Netherlands, or other European States, except Portugal.

"In the Spanish Colonies, such goods will continue to be treated under the Minimum Column of the Colonial Tariff.

"This treatment will be maintained until a permanent Commercial Treaty is concluded be-