

AMITY: CANADA

*Protocol signed at Washington May 30, 1898*¹

I Malloy 770; Treaty Series 145

PROTOCOL OF THE CONFERENCES AT WASHINGTON IN MAY, 1898, PRELIMINARY TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A JOINT COMMISSION FOR THE ADJUSTMENT OF QUESTIONS AT ISSUE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN, IN RESPECT TO THE RELATIONS OF THE FORMER WITH THE DOMINION OF CANADA

At the first meeting of the conferees, held on the 25th day of May, were present:

On the part of Great Britain, His Excellency The Right Honorable Sir Julian Pauncefoot, G. C. B., G. C. M. G., Her Britannic Majesty's ambassador at Washington, etc., and the Honorable Sir Louis Davies, K. C. M. G., minister of marine and fisheries of the Dominion of Canada; and

On the part of the United States, the Honorable John W. Foster, late Secretary of State of the United States, etc., and the Honorable John A. Kasson, special commissioner plenipotentiary, etc.

At this meeting the conferees considered and adopted the following declaration:

There is concurrence of views on both side upon the following points:

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It is desirable that all controversies between the United States and Great

¹ Pursuant to the protocol, commissioners were appointed, and the convention met at Quebec Aug. 23, 1898. President McKinley, in his annual message of 1899, said, "Much progress had been made by the commission toward the adjustment of many of these questions, when it became apparent that an irreconcilable difference of views was entertained respecting the delimitations of the Alaskan boundary. In the failure of an agreement as to the meaning of articles 3 and 4 of the treaty of 1825 between Russia and Great Britain [*British and Foreign State Papers*, vol. 12, p. 38], which defined the boundary between Alaska and Canada, the American commissioners proposed that the subject of the boundary be laid aside and that the remaining questions of difference be proceeded with, some of which were so far advanced as to assure the probability of a settlement. This being declined, by the British commissioner, an adjournment was taken until the boundary should be adjusted by the two Governments."