FRANCE.

Mr. McLane to Mr. Bayard.

[Extract.]

No. 720.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, December 19, 1888. (Received January 2, 1889.)

SIR: I have the honor of sending herewith a copy and a translation of resolutions framed October 31, 1888, at a conference held here of members of the British and French Parliaments, who have taken the lead in the movement for securing peace by means of tribunals of arbitration.

A committee of the conference waited on me to present these resolutions and to express the hope that our Government if it could take no part in their action would at least sympathize with its object. I assured them that the American people and Government could not be indifferent to such a move; that we had been the first to take decided steps for the practical adoption of the principle of arbitration, and that the efforts of the distinguished men who in France and in England were endeavoring to reach the same object had our moral support.

The members of the French Chambers who are in favor of arbitration are men of character and ability; some like Jules Simon of the Senate and Mr. Frederic Passy of the House are conspicuous and eminent in certain respects, but they are not numerous, and the public at large seems to take very little interest in the matter.

I have, etc.,

ROBERT M. MCLANE.

[Inclosure in No. 720.—Translation.]

Extract from the Proces-Verbal of the Parliamentary Conference of the 31*st October*, 1888.

The members of the British and French Parliaments united in conference at Paris the 31st October, 1888, for the purpose of assuring the maintenance of pacific relations between Great Britain, the United States, and France, by working at the preparation of treaties of arbitration between these three nations for the friendly settlement of differences which may arise between them, have taken cognizance of the documents, parliamentary and others, relating to the question of arbitration in the three countries, to wit, especially:

First. The address sent to the President and Congress of the United States by two hundred and thirty-three members of the House of Commons of England, and the sentiments annexed thereto of thirty-six members of the House of Lords, and of eminent persons, such as Messrs. Gladstone, Bright, Spurgeon, Cardinal Manning, Reverend Newman Hall, and the Lord Mayor of London.

Second. The resolutions presented to the two Houses of the Congress of the United States by a great number of their members and more especially by the Senators, in view of a permanent treaty of arbitration between France, the United States, and Great Britain, as well as with all other nations disposed to join with them.

Third. The reports of the Committee of Foreign Affairs and the votes of the Senate in the sittings of the 14th and 18th June, 1888.

Fourth. The provisions of resolutions, dated 21st January, 1887, and 21st April, 1888, presented to the chamber of deputies of France by a great number of its members and tending to the amelioration of international law by the more frequent resort to arbitration for the settlement of conflicts between nations, and more particularly to the conclusion of a general and permanent treaty of arbitration between the French Republic and the Republic of the United States.

Fifth. The petitions addressed with this object to the French Government, the last of which bears, besides others, the signatures of one hundred and twelve members of the chamber of deputies.

They declare, on the one hand, that the present state of the world constitutes for all nations a source of dangers and of ruin to which an end should be put; on the other hand, that the resort to arbitration for the settlement of international difficulties, the efficacy of which has always been proved on numerous occasions, is at once one of the surest ways of terminating the difficulties which may arise, and one of the best means of preventing these difficulties by the spirit of moderation and justice which it tends to disseminate.

They consider that the facts above recalled and the manifestations of opinion in the different civilized states show in the most evident manner the feeling of the necessity of peace and security with which civilized nations are animated.

They observe that, as far as the three nations specially cited above are concerned, the initiative taken by an important number of the members of their parliaments gives ground for hoping from these parliaments the approval of conventions of a nature to insure, under conditions of perfect dignity for each of the parties, the resort to arbitration.

That from the simultaneousness as from the importance of these manifestations it is clear that the same movement was produced with the same intensity and to the equal honor of each of the three nations in the three countries; so that it can not be said that it belongs rather to one than to another, and that no one of the governments in giving its attention to it could be considered as making advances to the others, advances which would be, moreover, entirely honorable.

They congratulate themselves upon this situation, record it, and by common accord adopt the following resolutions:

First. A copy of the present resolutions shall be forwarded simultaneously to the Governments of the United States, Great Britain, and France.

Second. An appeal shall be made to the press and to public opinion to second this movement.

Third. All members present and those who have given their approval to the provisions above recalled are requested not to neglect any opportunity of drawing the attention of the parliaments to which they belong to the question; and a similar request shall be addressed to the members of the American Congress who have presented or supported analogous resolutions.

Fourth. A further meeting, to which will be admitted not only the members of the three parliaments above cited, but also the members of other parliaments who have made themselves known by their devotion to the same ideas, shall take place next year to complete the work commenced in this first conference.

Fifth. A committee shall be charged with making the preparations for that meeting, and with carrying out the present resolutions.

In accordance with the above-given fifth resolution, Messrs Frederic Passy, president; Sir George Campbell and Cremer, vice-presidents; Jules Gaillard and Burt, secretaries; officers of the meeting have been chosen to form the executive committee, to whom have been joined Messrs. Provand and Schwann, M. P.; Jules Simon, Senator; Siegfried and Yves Guyot, deputies.

Mr. Rives to Mr. McLane.

No. 419.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 7, 1889.

SIR: Your dispatch No. 720 of the 19th ultimo, inclosing a copy of the resolutions in favor of international tribunals of arbitration, adopted by a conference of members of the British and French Parliaments, held at Paris on the 31st of October last, has been received and communicated to the appropriate committees of Congress.

I am, etc.,

G. L. RIVES.

Mr. McLane to Mr. Blaine.

No. 789.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, May 3, 1889. (Received May 14.)

SIR: With my dispatch No. 720 of December 19, 1888, I sent to the Department a copy of certain resolutions in favor of arbitration adopted October 31 of the same year at a conference of prominent members of the French and British Parliaments. At the request of Mr. Frederick Passy, who, with Mr. Jules Simon and other deputies, have taken a leading part in the move for securing peace by means of tribunals of arbitration, I now send a few copies of a printed circular recalling that among the resolutions referred to one had in view the calling of another conference at Paris during the exhibition, and naming the 29th and 30th of June as the time for the meeting of said conference.

Mr. Passy and his associates ask that this circular be communicated to those who are likely to favor the object they have in view, as well as to the American press, and express the hope that our Government will give its moral support to a move in which the United States have taken a conspicuous part. A translation of the circular is also inclosed herewith.

I have, etc.,

ROBERT M. MCLANE.

[Inclosure in No. 789.—Translation.]

International parliamentary conference of arbitration.

PARIS, *April*, 1889.

SIR: On the 31st of October last, as we have previously notified you, a certain number of members of the British Parliament and of the French Parliament, acting in the name of several hundreds of their colleagues, met at Paris with a view to occupy themselves with the means of improving international policy, and more particularly of bringing about between their two nations and the Republic of the United States of America the conclusion of treaties of arbitration of such a nature as to insure, by the amicable settlement of difficulties which might arise between them, the maintenance of their friendly relations.

Among other resolutions unanimously decided upon, and the text of which has been brought to the knowledge of the Governments and of the press, this assembly decided that a later conference in which would be invited to take part, not only the members of the parliament above cited, but also the members of the other parliaments known to be interested in the same ideas, should be held at Paris during the exhibition of 1889, to pursue, and, if possible, complete the work so happily begun.

In conformity with this decision, and in virtue of the mission which has been given us to insure its execution, we, by a previous circular which has received on all sides the best reception, have had the honor of begging you to be kind enough to take part, with the other members of the various parliaments who, like you, as we hope, understand the full importance of this manifestation, in the assembly which will take place at Paris on the 29th and the 30th of June next, in the large hall of the mairie of the sixth arrondissement (Place St. Sulpice), kindly put at our disposal by the municipality.

The first sitting will be opened at 9 o'clock in the morning. From 8 o'clock the members of the committee of organization will be at the office so that the list of those present can be signed, and to take note of the credentials and positions of those invited.

In the hope of being favored by your support and your presence, we beg you to accept, etc., in the name of the committee.

The members of the French Parliament: Jules Simon, senator; Frederic Passy, Jules Gaillard, Jules Siegfried, Yves Guyot, deputies.

The members of the British Parliament: W. R. Cremer, Sir George Campbell, Burt, Provand, Schwann, of the House of Commons.

Be kind enough to communicate this letter to the press and to those of your colleagues who, in spite of our care, have not received it.
Address replies to Mr. Frederic Passy, Neuilly sur Seine, near Paris.

Mr. Blaine to Mr. Reid.

No. 16.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 11, 1889.

SIR: I inclose herewith for your information a copy of resolutions recently adopted by the board of directors of the board of trade of the city of Chicago relative to the prohibition by Germany and France of the importation of American hog products.

It is difficult to add to the earnestness with which, during many years, this Government has remonstrated against this unjust and onerous prohibition of trade in one of the greatest staple products of our country and one which the continuous experience of long and careful observation has demonstrated to be second in healthfulness to no food product of domestic or export consumption, and it is with deep regret and pain that this Government has seen the failure of the hopes it has built on the good disposition of France in this regard and upon the efforts of the French cabinets from time to time to effect a friendly and equitable solution of the difficulty which the legislative features of the question in the chambers have thrown in the way of its adjustment.

The present memorial, coming as it does from the great pork producing and packing center of the United States, and representing important and widely diffused interests, as well agricultural as commercial, is worthy of careful consideration. Insistence upon what is firmly believed to be an unnecessary and unjust discrimination against our country can not but injuriously affect opinion here among the vast mass of producers and others whose interests are materially damaged. In no country of the world is the official machinery for the inspection of live-stock and for the stamping-out the first symptoms of disease more elaborate and efficient, and nowhere are more varied and effective interests concerned in securing the absolute healthfulness of the food products which form so large a part of the subsistence of our countrymen. Careful observation, continued over many years, has failed to disclose an authentic case of disease from eating American cured and packed pork products in foreign countries where their use is freely permitted; and it would be a result much to be deprecated if the widespread injury inflicted upon the farmers and merchants of a large area of our country should tend to weaken the strong and cordial sentiments of our population towards France and her people and beget resentment against what can not fail, if longer persisted in, to be regarded as a blind and unreasoning discrimination.

The correspondence on file in your legation will apprise you of the magnitude of this question, and you will lose no opportunity to impress the Government of France with the earnest desire and confident expectation of this Government that considerations of friendliness and justice may prevail in the treatment of this question by the statesmen and legislators of France.

At the same time it is proper to caution you against proffering suggestions of retaliation on our part. Acts founded upon resentment work grievous injury to international relations, and while the interests

affected in this country are doubtless exerting a potent influence among the representatives of the people, it may not be expedient to openly advert to the probability of Congressional action.

You are instructed to avail yourself of an early opportunity to recall the attention of the French foreign office to this subject, and to discreetly but earnestly press our remonstrances upon the Government of France against the unjust discrimination complained of.

I am, etc.,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

[Inclosure in No. 16.]

Mr. Stone to Mr. Blaine.

BOARD OF TRADE OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
Chicago, June 4, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of preamble and resolutions adopted by the board of directors of this board, with reference to the prohibition, by Germany and France, of the importation of American hog meats.

Very respectfully, yours,

GEO. F. STONE.

[Inclosure 2 in No. 16.]

Resolutions adopted by the board of trade of the city of Chicago.

CHICAGO, *May* 28, 1889.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by the board of directors of the board of trade of the city of Chicago at a meeting held this day.

Respectfully,

G. F. STONE,
Secretary.

Whereas the hog crop of this country is a source of great national revenue; and,

Whereas France and Germany prohibit the importation of American salted pork; and,

Whereas such prohibition is based upon the unfounded allegation that American hog meats are unhealthful, which insults and circumscribes a great and beneficent industry; and,

Whereas the hog product of England is not thus interdicted, and thereby a particular and offensive discrimination is made against the American hog product, to the great injury of our commerce; and

Whereas under this legislation our exportation of hog product has diminished in value from $104,000,000 in 1881 to $59,000,000 in 1888; and,

Whereas the American hog product is generally used in America by citizens of all nationalities, and in all foreign countries except France and Germany, without detriment to the health of the consumers, and therefore the existing decrees of prohibition can not truthfully rest on the basis of the unhealthfulness of the product;

Resolved, That the board of trade of the city of Chicago hereby respectfully represents to the United States Government the necessity of immediate and decided measures to the end that the disabilities herein recited be removed and the business in American hog meats no longer suffer under the stigma of false and injurious accusations, but be restored to its rightful place in the commerce of the world.

Resolved, That a copy of the above be sent to the honorable the Secretary of State and to the principal commercial organizations of the country.

Mr. Reid to Mr. Blaine.

[Extract.]

No. 21.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, June 28, 1889. (Received July 8.)

SIR: With reference to your dispatch No. 16 of June 11, transmitting a copy of resolutions adopted by the board of trade of Chicago as to the prohibition by Germany and France of the importation of American hog products, and instructing me to seize an early opportunity for recalling the attention of the French Government to the subject, I beg leave to suggest that any steps taken in this direction at this moment would seem inopportune.

As has been seen in the correspondence of my predecessor, it is no longer contended that the importation of American pork is prohibited in France on sanitary grounds. The French Government is not opposed to the removal of the prohibition. On the contrary it rather favors it and has tried to secure it not only to comply with our wishes, but also with a view of favoring the laboring classes for whom American hog products would furnish a cheap food. But it could not be expected to press a measure of this kind at a moment when its own existence is involved in the result of the pending legislative election. The exhibition, the trial of General Boulanger, and the preparation for the new elections engage all its attention.

For these reasons I respectfully suggest that any action having in view the removal of the prohibition of American pork be delayed until after the new chamber is elected in the autumn.

I have, etc.,

WHITELAW REID.

Mr. Reid to Mr. Blaine.

No. 79.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, October 19, 1889. (Received November 5.)

SIR: General Franklin having made known to me your desire that, with a view of removing the unfounded allegations upon which American hog products are prohibited in France, the French Government be invited to inspect the meats of that class now shown in the Universal Exhibition, it was agreed that we should call together on Mr. Spuller. We did so on the 15th instant, and I explained the object of our visit substantially as stated in the *note verbale* herewith, which was written at the request of the minister and sent to him the next day.

Mr. Spuller received our request favorably. He said it was a proper one to make and that he would confer about it with the minister of commerce, who had charge of matters of this kind. As far as he was concerned, he had no objection to re-opening the question of admitting salted meat in France, and he would like to settle it to our satisfaction. There were, however, difficulties in the way. Originally the meat was excluded purely on sanitary grounds; but since, the idea of protection to French producers of salt pork may have had its weight in maintaining the prohibition. He personally did not sympathize with the protectionist views, being a free-trader, and he would favor any measure tending to unrestricted commercial intercourse. But he was sorry to say the tendency of the new chamber seemed to be strongly in the op-

posite direction. I reminded him that there was a difference between protection and prohibition. I spoke also of the invidious discrimination in admitting the same class of products from other countries while prohibiting ours and of the impolicy of prohibiting cheap food. We parted after the renewed assurances of his good will.

His record on this question being in favor of the free admission of American pork products, I have no doubt he will again favor the measure. I do not expect, however, that he will meet the question as directly as it is put in the *note verbale* herewith.

I have, etc.,

WHITELAW REID.

[Inclosure in No. 79.]

Mr. Reid to Mr. Spuller.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, October 16, 1889.

Mr. Reid presents his compliments to Mr. Spuller and in compliance with his request states here the object of the call made on him yesterday with General Franklin.

The United States Government, regretting that American pork products are still prohibited in France, while similar products from other countries are admitted, has instructed its minister at Paris, and its commissioner-general at the Universal Exposition, to co-operate in efforts for the removal of this unjust discrimination.

The only ground heretofore assigned for it was the alleged unhealthfulness of the meat. The United States Government respectfully asks if that charge is still maintained by the French Republic. If so, the United States commissioner-general is instructed to ask, through the United States minister, for an official inspection of the American pork products which have been admitted to the exposition, and have been distinguished by its highest prize. This exhibit is large and embraces every variety of pork. The whole of it is placed at the disposal of the French Government for such inspection. The American producers are so confident that this can only result in establishing the perfect healthfulness of the meat that they invite the most careful and scrutinizing investigation.

If, on the contrary, the exclusion of American pork is not maintained for sanitary reasons the United States minister respectfully submits that his Government, as a friendly one, is entitled to know why an important American product is alone singled out among all similar products from other nations to be made the subject of such unequal treatment.

Mr. Reid to Mr. Blaine.

No. 94.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Paris, November 15, 1889. (Received November 26.)

SIR: I have the honor to forward the application of Mr. Frank R. Blackinton for a passport.

Mr. Blackinton has been residing in Paris since 1871, although he claims that his legal residence is at North Adams, Massachusetts, where he has property and where he pays and has regularly paid taxes on real and personal property. He states that during his eighteen years' residence abroad he has returned to the United States at least nine times, remaining for a few months at a time for the purpose of attending to his affairs. As he declares that, although he expects to go back shortly on business, he does not know when he will return to the United States to reside permanently, and that he has at present no intention or desire to do so, I do not feel at liberty under the present instructions to give him a passport.

It is a fact with which you are of course familiar that there are in Europe a great many citizens of the United States, not a few of them extremely well known and prominent, who are practically in the same position with Mr. Blackinton. To refuse them passports would doubtless cause considerable outcry. I should therefore be glad to be advised whether in your judgment I have construed the instructions of the Department too rigidly in the matter of Mr. Blackinton's application; and it would be a favor if I could have your special instructions as to such cases in future.

I have, etc.,

WHITELAW REID.

Mr. Blaine to Mr. Reid.

No. 76.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, December 2, 1889.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your No. 94 of the 15th ultimo, in which you inclose a passport application of Mr. Frank R. Blackinton, a native citizen of the United States, and request instructions from the Department on the subject, the application having been refused.

It appears by the application that Mr. Blackinton was born at North Adams, Massachusetts, in 1851, and consequently is now thirty-eight years of age. He left the United States in 1871, at the age of twenty, and has since generally resided abroad. He has, however, in the period mentioned been nine times in the United States, remaining for "a few months at a time." He further deposes that his domicile is in the United States and that his legal residence is at North Adams, where he pays and has always paid real and personal taxes. These facts certainly indicate that although Mr. Blackinton has resided much abroad his domicile is in the United States, that he has not abandoned his American citizenship, and that he is entitled to a passport. The Department would therefore direct that a passport be issued to him without further question were it not for what follows in his application. The last clause of the form which is required to be filled up is—

> That I intend to return to the United States within ——— with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein; and that I desire the passport for the purpose of ———.

It is to be observed, in the first place, that no definite period is fixed during or at the end of which the applicant is required to declare his purpose to return to and reside in the United States, to perform the duties of citizenship therein. For reasons of business, or for other causes, the applicant may be unable to make a definite and positive statement on the subject. In such case the reasons why such a statement is not or can not be made should be disclosed for the judgment of the legation; and the fact, if it appear, that the applicant is domiciled in the United States, of which the payment of personal taxes here is evidence, and adheres to his American nationality, goes far to make out his case. But when Mr. Blackinton is asked to state his intention in respect to residing in the United States and performing the duties of citizenship therein in the future he replies "that at present I have no plan, intention, or desire to do so." This statement is specific and unequivocal, and, whatever his purposes and his conduct may have been in the past, is a clear declaration that Mr. Blackinton does not intend

to perform the duties of citizenship hereafter, and that, besides, he has no desire to do so. If this declaration is expressive of Mr. Blackinton's purposes it seems scarcely consistent that he should ask the protection of the Government of the United States. The laws of the United States enjoin upon its authorities the recognition of the right of its citizens freely to renounce their allegiance, and this injunction the Executive is not at liberty to disregard. At the same time it is forbidden to issue passports to any but citizens of the United States, which has always been held to mean not persons who may be able merely to produce evidence that at a certain time they were citizens of the United States, but those who at the time they apply for the protection of the Government are its loyal citizens, bearing, in the language of the oath which they are required to take, "true faith and allegiance to the same;" when, therefore, a person declares that he has "no plan, intention, or desire" to perform the duties of citizenship, he by his own acts excludes himself from the class of persons who, in bearing "true faith and allegiance," are entitled to the protection of the Government whose allegiance he renounces. It can not be said that a person bears "true faith and allegiance" when at the same moment he declares that he has "at present no plan, intention, or desire" to perform the duties of citizenship, which is about as broad and comprehensive a renunciation of those duties as could be expressed.

With this declaration before it, the Department finds itself unable to direct favorable action upon Mr. Blackinton's application. If the Department had been left to gather this intention from antecedent facts, it would have come to a different conclusion, although no positive statement as to his future residence in the United States had been made; but it is superfluous to say that it is not admissible to resort to such inference to attribute to a person an intention to perform the duties of citizenship in the future, when he declares that he has neither intention nor desire to do so.

I am, etc.,

JAMES G. BLAINE.