

ARTICLE XXIV.

The President of the French Republic engages to recommend the National Assembly to give the necessary sanction for the execution of the present Treaty as soon as possible after an agreement between the two Governments shall have been arrived at with respect to the questions which are mentioned in Article XXI, and which, not having yet been settled, are by the same Article XXI referred to the Commission therein mentioned.

The ratifications of the present Treaty shall be exchanged at Paris as soon as possible after such sanction shall have been notified to Her Majesty's Government; the Treaty shall come into force immediately on the exchange of the ratifications; and the Treaty of the 23rd January, 1860, the Additional Articles of the 25th February, 1860, and 27th June, 1860, and the Supplementary Conventions of the 12th October and 16th November, 1860, shall be cancelled thereafter, except in so far as relates to the specific stipulations contained in Article II, and the arrangements with respect to matters reserved to the Commission to be appointed in conformity with Article XXI of the present Treaty.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty, and have affixed thereto the Seals of their arms.

Done at London the fifth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

(L.S.)	GRANVILLE.
(L.S.)	CH. GAVARD.
(L.S.)	J. OZENNE.

PROTOCOL of a Conference held at the Foreign Office, November 5, 1872, between the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain and of France.

THE Plenipotentiaries of Her Britannic Majesty and of the French Republic, in proceeding to the signature of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation of this date, place upon record that they have agreed upon the following points:—

ARTICLE I.

The Commission named in Article XXI of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation of this date between Great Britain and France shall meet at Paris within ten days after the signature of the Treaty and the present Protocol, in order to examine the questions reserved by the said Article XXI for further consideration, and, if possible, to recommend to the Governments of the two countries a settlement of the same.

After their first meeting, the Commission shall adjourn for a period not exceeding ten days, in order to allow the British Commissioner to prepare the statement in regard to these several matters to be presented on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

When the Commission shall have agreed on its Report on the said questions, which it shall have examined and discussed, it shall adjourn for a period not exceeding fourteen days, in order to enable the two Governments to come to a decision with regard to its recommendations, which decision the Commission shall announce at its first meeting.

As soon as an agreement shall have been come to between the two Governments on these ques-

tions, the President of the French Republic shall proceed with the Treaty in the manner specified in Article XXIV of the said Treaty.

ARTICLE II.

As soon as the National Assembly shall have sanctioned the Treaty, the Commission shall meet again to deliberate and to decide upon the questions hereinafter stated as to existing contracts and relating to British mineral oils, and as to the duties to be levied in respect thereof.

ARTICLE III.

The High Contracting Parties, before the exchange of the ratifications of the present Treaty and Protocol, shall name some third person to act as Arbitrator in regard to any points in connection with the questions referred to in the preceding Article on which the Commissioners may themselves differ in opinion. The Commissioners shall refer any such points to the Arbitrator, whose decision shall be binding on the Commissioners, and shall be reported by them accordingly.

The High Contracting Parties shall forthwith carry out the decision come to by the Commission or by the Arbitrator.

ARTICLE IV.

All contracts already entered into for the delivery of goods in France or Algeria, which are still unexecuted in whole or in part, may be submitted to the Commission for equitable consideration as to the relief to be afforded to the importer of such goods from payment of the augmented duties to which they would otherwise be liable under the Tariff in Annex I, before the 15th of March, 1873.

Immediately on the signature of the Treaty, the two Government respectively shall publish notices requiring all contracts made in the United Kingdom, or in France or Algeria, as the case may be, which remain to be executed in whole or in part between the date when the Tariff, Annex I, shall come into operation and the 15th March, 1873, to be notified in writing within fourteen days after the publication of such notice at the Foreign Office in London and at the Ministry of Agriculture and of Commerce in Paris. The two Governments shall cause such contracts to be examined by the Commission with the view to ascertain their validity, that is to say, that they were binding contracts according to the Laws of the respective countries, when they were entered into, and also that they were entered into in good faith as regards the French Government; meaning, that they were not entered into by persons aware of an intention or proposal on the part of the respective Governments to agree to the duties being raised before the 15th of March, 1873, with a view to evade the payment of the increased duties.

Should the Commissioners differ in opinion in regard to any particular case or cases, they shall refer the same to the Arbitrator, whose decisions shall be final.

In case the validity of any of such contracts shall be admitted by the Commission, the French Government will take the necessary steps for repaying to the importers the duties levied in excess on goods comprised in the contracts so admitted to be valid, and imported into France between the date when the Tariff in Annex I shall come into operation, and the 15th of March, 1873, that is to say, the amount of duty levied beyond the amount which would have been levied as duty under the Tariffs authorized by the Treaty and