Mr. Seward to Mr. McBride.

No. 10.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 14, 1864.

JAMES McBRIDE, Esq., etc.:

Sir: Your dispatch No. 9, of October 9, 1863, has been received. The subject of which it treats, viz., the policy of Great Britain in the Sandwich Islands—the efforts made by its officials there to shape and control the future destinies of these islands—and the measures which you indicate, with the view of counteracting these influences, are all deemed of much importance and they will receive the consideration to which they are justly entitled.

I am, etc.,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Mr. McBride to Mr. Seward.

No. 37.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION,
Honolulu, September 16, 1864.

Sir: As the United States Government is now paying rent for a piece of ground for a naval depot, and as a permanent depot here will be vastly more important to our Government in the future than it has been in time past, from the increased necessity for naval defense, owing to the States and Territories on the Pacific Slope, the number of American whale ships floating in various parts of the Pacific, the increased and increasing commerce with these islands, and last, though not least, the immense commerce which we have the right to anticipate between the United States, China, and Japan, I hope it will be considered proper in me to suggest that, if a reciprocity treaty should at any time be made with this Government, a fee simple to a piece of land at this port, sufficient for a wharf and buildings for a naval depot and also for a dry dock, should be made one of the conditions of said treaty, as the principal advantage accruing from such a treaty will be to this Government, as shown in my dispatch of yesterday.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

JAMES McBRIDE.

Mr. McCook to Mr. Seward.

No. 6.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Honolulu, September 3, 1866.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch No. 3, inclining the opinion of the Attorney-General in the matter of the American ships Josephine and Blue Jacket.

I regard it as a cause for congratulation that the Government has arrived at the conclusion indicated by the opinions of the Attorney-General, for the Hawaiian courts have in the past certainly shown a disposition to unnecessarily annoy American shipmasters, and the Hawaiian Government has invariably refused to redress their grievances.

In examining the correspondence of my predecessors I observe that