

The cases of the two Governments were set forth during many sittings, and on August 15th Baron de Courcel delivered to the Agents of Great Britain and the United States original copies of the decision of the Court, signed by all the arbitrators.

After a preamble stating the case submitted for decision, the full text of the award runs as follows :—

“ We decide and determine as to the five points mentioned in Article VI., as to which our award is to embrace a distinct decision upon each of them.

“ As to the first of said five points, we, Baron de Courcel, John M. Harlan, Lord Hannen, Sir John S. D. Thompson, Marquis Emilio Visconti-Venosta and Gregero W. W. Gram, being a majority of said arbitrators, do decide as follows :—

“ By the ukase of 1821 Russia claimed jurisdiction in the sea now known as Behring Sea, to the extent of 100 Italian miles from the coasts and islands belonging to her, but in the course of the negotiations which led to the conclusion of the Treaty of 1824 with the United States and the Treaty of 1825 with Great Britain, Russia admitted that her jurisdiction in said sea should be restricted so as to reach a cannon shot from shore. It appears that from that time up to the time of the cession of Alaska to the United States, Russia never asserted in fact or exercised any exclusive jurisdiction in Behring Sea, or any exclusive rights to the seal fisheries therein, beyond the ordinary limit of territorial waters.

“ As to the second of the five points, we, Baron de Courcel, John M. Harlan, Lord Hannen, Sir John S. D. Thompson, Marquis Emilio Visconti-Venosta, and Gregero W. W. Gram, being a majority of said arbitrators, decide and determine that Great Britain did not recognize or concede any claim upon the part of Russia to exclusive jurisdiction as to the seal fisheries in Behring Sea, outside the ordinary territorial waters.

“ As to the third point, as to so much thereof as requires us to decide whether the body of water now known as Behring Sea was included in the phrase “ Pacific Ocean,” as used in the Treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia, we unanimously decide and determine that the body of water now known as Behring Sea was included in the phrase “ Pacific Ocean,” as used in the said treaty.

“ On the fourth point we decide and determine that all the rights of Russia to jurisdiction and to the seal fisheries passed to the United States, limited by the cession.”

On the fifth point the decision of the Tribunal, Justice Harlan and Senator Morgan dissenting, was as follows :—