

a. What exclusive jurisdiction in the sea now known as the Behring's Sea and what exclusive rights in the seal fisheries therein did Russia assert and exercise prior and up to the time of the cession of Alaska to the United States?

b. How far were these claims of jurisdiction as to the seal fisheries recognized and conceded by Great Britain?

c. Was the body of water now known as the Behring's Sea included in the phrase "Pacific Ocean" as used in the treaty of 1825, between Great Britain and Russia; and what rights, if any, in the Behring's Sea were held and exclusively exercised by Russia after said treaty?

d. Did not all the rights of Russia as to jurisdiction and as to the seal fisheries in Behring's Sea east of the water boundary in the treaty between the United States and Russia of the 30th March, 1867, pass unimpaired to the United States?

e. Has the United States any right, and if so what right, of protection or property in the fur seals frequenting the islands of the United States in Behring's Sea when such seals are found outside the ordinary three-mile limit?

Article VII. provides that the arbitrators should determine the regulations necessary for the proper protection and preservation of the fur seal, and that the contracting powers should secure the co-operation of other powers.

Article VIII. provides for the determination by the arbitrators of questions of fact as to claims for damages, the question of liability to be the subject of future negotiation.

86. 1892. *Convention as to Boundaries, Washington.*—Convention between United Kingdom and United States as to Alaskan boundary and that in Passamaquoddy Bay.

Article I. provides for a coincident or joint survey by commissioners for the boundary line between Canada and Alaska.

Article II. provides for the appointment of commissioners to determine upon a method of more accurately marking the boundary line between the two countries in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay in front of and adjacent to Eastport in the State of Maine.

87. 1893. *Treaty with France, Paris.**—Commercial agreement between the United Kingdom (on behalf of Canada) and France.

Article I. provides that still wines less than 26 per cent alcohol shall be exempt from the surtax or *ad valorem* duty of 30 per cent. That the duty of common and castile soaps shall be reduced one-half, and the duty on nuts, almonds, prunes and plums by one-third.

Article II. provides that tariff advantages granted by Canada to a third power shall be enjoyed by France, Algeria and French colonies.

Article III. provides that certain goods of Canadian origin shall be subject only to the minimum duty in France, Algeria and French colonies, viz.: canned milk, condensed milk, fresh water fish, fresh lobsters and crawfish preserved in their natural forms, apples and pears, fresh or dried,

* See *Canada Gazette*, 19th October, 1895, for proclamation bringing this treaty into force from and after the 14th October, 1895.