

TREATIES.

In the Year-Book of Canada for 1895 a digest was given of the Treaties relating to Canada made by our Sovereigns with the Rulers of other countries.

On February 8th, 1896, a Convention was signed by Great Britain and the United States, providing for reference to two commissioners to determine the liability of the United States in respect to claims on account of injuries sustained by persons in whose behalf Great Britain is entitled to claim compensation under the provisions of the treaty between Great Britain and the United States, signed February 29th, 1892, concerning the jurisdictional right of the United States in the waters of Behring Sea and the preservation of the fur seal therein.

(Mr. Justice Putnam on behalf of the United States, and Mr. Justice King on behalf of Canada, were appointed commissioners in July, 1896. The King of Sweden consented to act as umpire. The Dominion Parliament passed the necessary Act on 23rd April, 1896.)

British Treaties of Commerce affecting Canada are :—

(Arranged alphabetically.)

1825. Argentine Confederation.—Reciprocal most-favoured nation stipulations. Applicable to British dominions. No term fixed.

1876. Austria-Hungary.—Reciprocal most-favoured stipulations. Applicable to British colonies and foreign possessions. Terminable one year after notice,

*1862. Belgium.**—Reciprocal and most-favoured-nation stipulations. Applicable to British colonies.

Article XV. provides that articles, the produce and manufacture of Belgium, shall not be subject in the British colonies to other or higher duties than those which are or may be imposed upon similar articles of British origin. Terminable one year after notice, but by Article XXV. the high contracting powers reserve to themselves the right to introduce into the treaty by common consent any modifications which may not be at variance with its spirit or principles, and the utility of which may be shown by experience.

1840. Bolivia.—Reciprocal most-favoured-nation stipulations. Applicable to British dominions. No term fixed.

1854. Chili.—Reciprocal most-favoured-nation stipulations. Applicable to British dominions. Terminable one year after notice.

1866. Columbia.—Reciprocal most-favoured-nation stipulations. Applicable to British dominions. Terminable one year after notice.

1883. Corea.—Article X. stipulates that the government, public officers and subjects shall participate in all privileges, immunities and advantages, especially in relation to import or export duties on goods and manufactures, which shall then have been granted or may hereafter be granted by His Majesty the King of Corea to the government, public officers or subjects of any other power. Applicable to British colonies unless excepted by notice. May be modified one year after notice.

— * Treaty denounced by Great Britain, July 30th, 1897.