

merce with the States is now great, and increasing yearly. The Alaskan trade with the city of Seattle in the past year has reached nearly a million dollars, and with the present increase of trade will double within the next year.

The committee respectfully submits the above as some of the results of its labors, and believes that no efforts should be spared by this chamber to bring to the aid of our Government all evidence which will enable it to establish our rights over the disputed territory.

The convention of 1862 between the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland provided for the appointment of commissioners by the high contracting parties "with a view to the ascertainment of the facts and data necessary to the permanent delimitation of the said boundary line," etc. To secure such facts and data a coincident or joint survey of the territory adjacent to the boundary line was agreed upon, and the commissioners were to make a joint report to each of the two Governments upon such facts as they were able to agree upon, and to jointly or severally report to each Government such points as they were unable to agree upon. As soon as the reports shall have been received, then the high contracting parties further agree that "they will proceed to consider and establish the boundary line in question."

The committee learns through the press dispatches that the reports provided for by the above convention have been submitted to the respective Governments, and await further action, in pursuance of the terms of the convention of 1862 and the supplemental convention of 1894.

Sincerely hoping that the efforts of the committee may aid a peaceful and satisfactory solution of the controversy, this report is herewith respectfully submitted.

J. B. METCALFE,  
*Chairman of Committee.*

Mr. SQUIRE. I trust that early action may be taken upon the joint resolution. I do not deem it necessary that it should be referred to any committee for action, but if it is thought best it may be referred.

Several SENATORS. Let it be referred.

Mr. SQUIRE. Very well. I move that the joint resolution be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The motion was agreed to.

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