

"The question of instructions to Government vessels in regard to preventing the indiscriminate killing of fur-seals is now being considered, and I will inform you at the earliest day possible what has been decided, so that British and other vessels, visiting the waters in question, can govern themselves accordingly."<sup>1</sup>

And when later informed that "Her Majesty's Government had assumed that, pending the conclusion of discussions between the two governments on general questions involved, no further seizures would be made by order of the United States Government,"<sup>2</sup> he promptly denied ever saying anything to justify such an assumption, but declared that "having no reason to anticipate any other seizures, nothing was said in relation to the possibility of such an occurrence."<sup>3</sup>

Here the matter might have ended, but fresh seizures now re-opened the healing trouble. All through July and August of 1887, the events of the preceding year were repeated. During those two months, the U. S. revenue-cutter *Richard Rush* captured the British Columbian fishing schooners *W. P. Sayward*, 59 miles; *Dolphin*, 40 miles; *Grace*, 96 miles; and *Anna Beck*, 66 miles from Oonalaska Island; and the *Alfred Adams*, 60 miles from the nearest land.

Formal protest was again entered by the British Minister at Washington.<sup>4</sup> An opportunity was given the owners of these vessels to release them on appeal bonds.<sup>5</sup> But owing to a failure of the proctors to take

<sup>1</sup> No. 12. April 12, 1887.

<sup>2</sup> No. 15. Sir L. S. S. West to Mr. Bayard, August 11, 1887.

<sup>3</sup> Let. to Sir L. S. S. West, Aug. 13, 1887.

<sup>4</sup> No. 23. Lets. Sir L. S. S. West to Mr. Bayard, Oct. 12 and 19, 1887.

<sup>5</sup> Let. Mr. Garland to Mr. Bayard, March 9, 1888.