

Great Britain, engaged in carrying out the *modus vivendi* of 1891, has been exchanged for the purpose of enabling general conclusions to be arrived at on these points.

4. Meetings of the Joint Commission were held in Washington, beginning on Monday, the 8th February, and continuing until Friday, the 4th March, 1892. As a result of these meetings, we find ourselves in accord on the following propositions:—

5. We are in thorough agreement that, for industrial, as well as for other obvious reasons, it is incumbent upon all nations, and particularly upon those having direct commercial interests in fur-seals, to provide for their proper protection and preservation.

6. Our joint and several investigations have led us to certain conclusions, in the first place, in regard to the facts of seal life, including both the existing conditions and their causes; and, in the second place, in regard to such remedies as may be necessary to secure the fur-seal against depletion or commercial extermination.

7. We find that, since the Alaska purchase, a marked diminution in the number of seals on, and habitually resorting to, the Pribyloff Islands has taken place; that it has been cumulative in effect, and that it is the result of excessive killing by man.

8. Finding that considerable difference of opinion exists on certain fundamental propositions, which renders it impossible in a satisfactory manner to express our views in a Joint Report, we have agreed that we can most conveniently state our respective conclusions on these matters in the "several" Reports which it is provided may be submitted to our respective Governments.

Signed in duplicate at the city of Washington this 4th day of March, 1892.

(Signed)

GEORGE SMYTH BADEN-POWELL.

GEORGE MERCER DAWSON.

THOMAS CORWIN MENDENHALL.

CLINTON HART MERRIAM.

(Signed)

Ashley Anthony Froude, }
Joseph Stanley-Brown, } *Joint Secretaries.*
