

Her Majesty's Embassy, a sworn affidavit, dated the 27th August, together with a protest by the captain and a declaration by the Superintendent of the Commodore Islands, who seized the ship, having been forwarded to Mr. Dering, from Nagasaki, in a letter from the master of the ship, transmitted by the owners, asking that no action should be taken until they have sent in their statement of claims and a legal opinion on the entire case.

Until they do so I deem it best not to trouble your Lordship with the correspondence on the subject.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) R. B. D. MORIER.

No. 4.

*Lord Stanley of Preston to Lord Knutsford.*—(Received at the Foreign Office,  
November 28<sup>th</sup>.)

My Lord,

*Government House, Ottawa, November 6, 1888.*

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship a copy of an approved Report of a Committee of the Privy Council, submitting a communication from Messrs. Hall, Goepel, and Co., Victoria, British Columbia, the owners of the British schooner "Araunah," together with certain documents and facts in connection with the seizure of that vessel on the 1st July last, for an alleged violation of the Fishing and Hunting Laws of the Imperial Russian Government, by the Russian merchant-steamer "Alexander II," whilst in the prosecution of her legitimate calling as a sealing schooner in the Behring's Sea.

Your Lordship will observe that a statement of this case has already been forwarded by Captain Siewerd, his mate and crew, to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg.

My Government desire that a remonstrance may be made to the Russian Government for so unwarrantable an act as that committed by the commander of the "Alexander II," and a claim made for the loss and damage sustained by the owners of the "Araunah" in consequence of this seizure in the open sea.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) STANLEY OF PRESTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 4.

*Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council on October 22, 1889.*

ON a Report dated the 20th October, 1888, from the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, stating, with reference to the communication, dated the 21st September, 1888, of Messrs. Hall, Goepel, and Co., Victoria, British Columbia, the owners of the British schooner "Araunah," that it appears from the statements accompanying the communication, that the vessel in question was seized on the 1st day of July last by the Russian merchant-steamer "Alexander II" for an alleged violation, in that part of the North Pacific Ocean known as Behring's Sea, of the Hunting Laws of the Russian Government.

At the time of the seizure the "Araunah" was pursuing a legitimate calling in waters which are open to vessels of all nations.

It further appears that a statement of this case has already been forwarded by Captain Siewerd, his mate and crew, to Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg.

The Minister recommends that a copy of Messrs. Hall, Goepel, and Co.'s letter, with its inclosures, be forwarded, through the proper channel, to Her Majesty's Government.

The Committee concurring, advise that your Excellency be moved to forward copies of the papers herewith to the Right Honourable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies for transmission to the Foreign Office, in order that remonstrance may be made to the Russian Government for so unwarrantable an act as that committed by the commander of the "Alexander II," and a claim be made for such a reparation for the wrong done as may be commensurate with the loss and damage