

seal-skins being found on board of her, she was warned and liberated.<sup>1</sup>

As before, these acts of alleged violence on the part of the United States were promptly protested against by Lord Salisbury.<sup>2</sup> The State Department again undertaking to justify these seizures, the suspended correspondence between the diplomatic representatives of the two countries was re-opened. No understanding between them was reached which would permit of a mutual regulation of the seal fishing for the season of 1890. It being rumored that orders similar to those of previous seasons had been issued to our revenue cruisers about to be dispatched to Behring Sea, Sir Julian Pauncefote formally protested against such threatened interference, and declared that his Government must hold the United States responsible for the consequences which might ensue therefrom.<sup>3</sup> But fortunately there resulted no clash of interests in the Behring Sea, during that season, of sufficient importance to call forth further remonstrance from Great Britain. Before the summer of 1891 arrived, diplomatic negotiations had proceeded so far that a *modus vivendi* was agreed upon by the two countries. This agreement, made June 15, 1891, has an additional interest in being a possible forecast of a permanent settlement to be hereafter made. It provides :

1. That Her Majesty's Government will prohibit, until May next, seal-killing in that portion of the Behr-

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<sup>1</sup> See declaration and affidavit of the masters, and instructions of Capt. Shepard of the *Rush* to the special officer placed on board the *Black Diamond*, inclosures 4, 6 and 7, of No. 7, 1890.

<sup>2</sup> No. 7, 1890. Let., The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Edwardes, Oct. 2, 1889.

<sup>3</sup> No. 25, 1890. Inclosure of let. Pauncefote-Blaine, June 14, 1890.