

Criminal Code, so as to prevent difficulty in the future. It might perhaps be sufficient to strike out the following words at the end of the section: "as are necessary for the consideration of the case by the Crown;" and possibly also to add after the words: "it becomes necessary to delay," the following: "or impossible to carry out;" and also to add after the words, "from time to time," the sentence: "before or after the time fixed therefor." The fact that two cases have already risen which have caused perplexity in this regard, is a sufficient reason for an amendment.

OUR RIGHTS IN HUDSON'S BAY.

The reported despatch by the Dominion Government of an expedition to establish British supremacy in Hudson's Bay, and the territory which surrounds it, may perhaps give rise to some important questions of international law and territorial rights. It therefore behooves us to walk warily, in all matters of that character, and, while firmly standing by unquestionable rights, not to assert claims which cannot be maintained.

Hudson's Bay, which ranks in point of extent with the Black Sea and Baltic, differs from those great inland seas so materially that no common rule of international law is applicable to all. No precedents for our guidance can be found in the solution of the many questions which have arisen with regard to them, nor is there, in any part of the world, a case precisely similar to ours. Our inland sea is peculiar in this—that while the shores that surround it are all in the possession of a single power, which is not the case with either the Black sea or the Baltic, yet the channel by which it is approached, varying in width from one hundred to sixty miles, differs entirely from the narrow passages to those other seas which can be controlled by the Powers occupying them.

By their original character the Hudson's Bay Company were granted the sole right to trade and commerce in all the waters lying within Hudson's Straits, including of course what is known as Hudson's Bay, and that sole right, whatever the validity of the grant may be, undoubtedly passed to Canada by the purchase of the Hudson's Bay territories and all pertaining thereto in the year 1869.

By the treaty of 1818 between Great Britain and the United States, which defined the rights of the Americans to fish off the