

In 1886 this ruling was affirmed by Secretary Manning in a letter<sup>1</sup> to Collector Hagan :

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

"March 6, 1886.

"*Sir*.—I transmit herewith for your information a copy of a letter addressed by the Department on the 12th March, 1881, to D. A. D'Ancona, concerning the Jurisdiction of the United States in the waters of the Territory of Alaska and the prevention of the killing of fur seals and other fur-bearing animals within such areas as prescribed by chapter 3, title 23, of the Revised Statutes. The attention of your predecessor in office was called to the subject on the 4th April, 1881. This communication is addressed to you, inasmuch as it is understood that certain parties at your port contemplate the fitting out of expeditions to kill fur seals in these waters. You are requested to give due publicity to such letters, in order that such parties may be informed of the construction placed by this Department upon the provision of law referred to.

"Respectfully yours,

"D. MANNING,

"Secretary."

But as yet no captures had been made.<sup>2</sup> British Columbian sealers in Alaskan waters remained unmolested so late as 1885 ; and this, although spoken by American revenue-cutters. In the spring of 1886 a

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<sup>1</sup> No. 156.

<sup>2</sup> No. 12. Let. Mr. Bayard to Sir L. S. S. West, April 12, 1887 ; No. 117. Let. Lord Lansdowne to Mr. Stanhope, Nov. 29, 1886.