

Adams" brought down with him and which you can deal with in any way you think fit.

W. HAMLEY.

The Honorable GEO. E. FOSTER, Minister of Marine.

[Enclosure No. 46.]

Declaration of W. H. Dyer.

In the matter of the seizure of the sealing schooner "Alfred Adams" by the United States revenue cutter "Richard Rush."

I, William Henry Dyer, of Victoria, B. C., master mariner, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:—

1. I am the master of the schooner "Alfred Adams," of the port of Victoria, British Columbia, engaged in the business of catching seals. On the 6th of August, 1887, while on board the said schooner and in command of the same, being in latitude 54° 48' N. and longitude 167° 49' West, the United States revenue cutter "Richard Rush" steamed alongside, lowered a boat commanded by the first lieutenant and boat's crew. The said lieutenant came on board the said "Alfred Adams" and ordered me to take the ship's register, log-book, articles and all other of the ship's papers on board the "Richard Rush." In obedience to his command I took all said papers and accompanied the said lieutenant on board the "Rush." When I arrived on board the "Rush" the captain of the "Rush" asked me what was my business in the Behring Sea. I replied taking seals. He enquired how many skins I had. I replied 1,386. He then said he would seize the ship, take the skins, arms, ammunition and spears. I stated I did not think the ship was liable to seizure, as we had never taken a seal within 60 miles of Ounalaska nor nearer St. Paul's than 60 miles south of it, and that we had never been notified that the waters were prohibited unless landing and taking them from the Island of St. Paul's. He stated he must obey the orders of his Government, and that our Government and his must settle the matter, and ordered me to proceed on board the said schooner and deliver up my arms, ammunition, skins and spears. He sent two boats belonging to the "Rush" in charge of the first and second lieutenant of the "Rush" respectively, and manned with sailors from the "Rush," who came on board the said schooner (I returning in company with the first lieutenant). They took from the said schooner 1,386 (thirteen hundred and eighty-six) skins, four kegs of powder (3 triple F and 1 blasting powder), 500 (five hundred) shells, three cases of caps and primers, nine breech-loading double-barrelled shot guns, one Winchester rifle, all in good order, and twelve Indian spears, and he then gave me a sealed letter addressed to the United States marshal and United States district attorney at Sitka; he also gave me an acknowledgment of the goods taken and also gave me a certificate that the said schooner was under seizure, and after being alongside for about three and a half hours, I received orders in writing to proceed to Sitka and report to the United States district attorney and marshal. We then parted company. My crew consisted of myself, mate, two seamen, one Chinese cook and twenty-one (21) Indians. Previous to the said seizure we had spoken the schooner "Kate," of Victoria, and had been informed by the mate of that vessel that the crews (and particularly the Indians) taken to Sitka on schooners previously seized had been very badly treated. The Indians became very mutinous on learning that we were to proceed to Sitka and report to the United States authorities, and declared they would not go to Sitka, and to avoid trouble I came to Victoria instead of going to Sitka. I arrived in Victoria on the 31st August, 1887, at about 7 p.m.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the Oaths Ordinance, 1869.

W. H. DYER.

Declared before me this 1st day of
September, 1887, at Victoria,
British Columbia.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN, a Notary Public in
and for the Province of British Columbia.