

openly on the deck of the "W. P. Sayward" that, in seizing this and the other Canadian vessels he was acting under direct instructions from the United States Government.

I forward also the information laid in the District Court at Sitka by the United States Attorney Ball against the master and mate of the "W. P. Sayward." The indictments against the masters and mates of the other vessels are in the same forms and terms, the complaint being that they had killed fur seals in Behring Sea contrary to the statutes of the United States, and against the peace and dignity of the United States of America.

The case is to be heard in the District Court at Sitka on the 22nd of this month. The mate of the "W. P. Sayward" was allowed out on bail in \$500, and returned last night for the trial.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,
W. HAMLEY.

Hon. GEO. E. FOSTER, Minister of Marine and Fisheries.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

I, Andrew Laing, of Victoria, mate of the British schooner "W. P. Sayward," do solemnly and sincerely declare that I left Victoria, B.C., in the schooner "W. P. Sayward," on the 16th day of May, 1887, bound on a sealing voyage with a crew of seven men and sixteen Indian hunters with eight canoes. We commenced sealing off Cape Scott on the north of Vancouver Island, and killed 479 fur seals in the Pacific Ocean and entered the Behring Sea on the 2nd of July, 1887, passing between Unimak Island and the Island of the Four Mountains. The weather was very thick and foggy, and we did no sealing in Behring Sea in consequence. On the 9th July we were captured by the United States steamer "Richard Rush," being then from thirty to forty miles off the nearest land. We were taken to Oonalaska, where we arrived on the 10th July, and they laid us alongside the steamer "St. Paul," belonging to the Alaska Commercial Company. They removed the seal skins and took them ashore to the wharf and put them in the company's warehouse, and they resalted the skins with salt taken from our vessel. They put an officer from the "Rush" on board and towed us out to sea and told us to go to Sitka. We arrived there on the 22nd July and on the next day an investigation was held before Judge Dawson, who bound us over to appear on the 22nd August for trial. The vessel was left in charge of the United States officers, and we were only allowed to remove our clothing. The Indians were left to find their way home as they could; they were about 700 miles from their villages.

I further say that when we were taken I spoke to the captain of the "Rush" and told him we had not taken a seal in Behring Sea; he replied that, "I am sorry for you, I have to obey orders and take everything I come across in Behring Sea."

And I make this solemn declaration by virtue of the Act passed in the 37th year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled: "An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths."

A. LAING.

Taken and declared before me at Victoria, }
B.C., this 8th day of August, 1887. }

M. W. TRYWHITT DRAKE, *Notary Public.*

[Enclosure No. 3.]

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE DISTRICT OF ALASKA.
THE UNITED STATES

vs.
GEORGE R. FERRY AND A. LAING. }

Information.

District of Alaska, s. s.

George R. Ferry and A. Laing are accused by M. D. Ball, United States district attorney for Alaska, by this information, of the crime of killing fur seals within the waters of Alaska Territory—committed as follows:—