

Company, was legitimate and not injurious ; that Lord Salisbury and the British Government should continue the *modus vivendi* indefinitely, by which Canadian sealers were precluded from carrying out their occupation and Americans permitted to capture seals up to a certain limit which they publicly and deliberately exceeded; that it was very wrong of the British Government to maintain the rights of Canada, to insist upon Arbitration and cessation of American seizures, to refuse a continuation of the *modus vivendi* unless the American Government consented to pay damages, should the arbitration go against them ;—such were a few of the claims made and such a brief outline of the policy of the United States in this matter.

The final result of the diplomatic struggle and of a long series of American aggressions in the waters of Behring sea was the reference of the chief points in dispute to a tribunal of arbitration in which Canada, Great Britain and the United States are represented. Sir John Thompson is the Canadian arbitrator, and the Hon. Charles H. Tupper is British agent, and has lately been some time abroad working up the details of the Canadian case. It was an excellent appointment and was so considered all over Canada. The questions to be submitted to the International Tribunal for decision : the basis upon which Mr. Tupper will have to work and, it is to be hoped, build a structure of triumph for Canada and increased reputation for himself, is found in this following outline :

1. What exclusive jurisdiction in the sea known as the Behring Sea and what exclusive rights in the sea fisheries therein did Russia assert and exercise prior and up to the time of the cession of Alaska to the United States ?
2. How far were these claims of jurisdiction as to the seal fisheries recognised and conceded by Great Britain ?
3. Was the body of water now known as the Behring Sea included in the phrase "Pacific Ocean," as used in the treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia, and what rights, if any, in the Behring Sea were held and exclusively exercised by Russia after said treaty ?
4. Did not all the rights of Russia as to jurisdiction and as to the seal fisheries in Behring Sea east of the water boundary, in the treaty between the United States and Russia of the 30th March, 1867, pass unimpaired to the United States under that treaty ?