

Q. Were you so on the 1st day of August last? A. I was.

Q. State what occurred on that day in the line of your duty. A. I saw a small boat on the port bow; we came up to her, and found she had about eight fur seal aboard. The men in the boat were armed with breech-loading rifles. In answer to the commanding officer, the men admitted they were killing fur seal. Shortly after we picked up a second boat, and then sighted the schooner "Thornton." There were dead seal in the second boat. I did not examine the other boats; I was sent on board the schooner, saw Haus Guttormsen apparently acting as captain, and Henry Norman as mate. I asked them what they were doing? The captain replied, "Catching seals." I signalled this to Captain Abbey, who directed me to seize her, which I did, and the "Corwin" took the schooner in tow. The fur seal in the boats were bleeding, and must have been killed within a few hours.

Q. How many men were on board of the "Thornton" at the time of seizure? A. About fifteen.

Q. Was this a reasonable number for ordinary purposes of commerce and navigation? A. It was an unusually large number for the size of the vessel.

Q. Do you recognize this paper? A. I do. It is the official inventory made by me of the furniture, tackle, and cargo of the schooner "Thornton" (inventory embraces the usual furniture, rigging, nautical instruments, boats and stores of a vessel of this class, with a cargo of 403 seal skins, 3 seal pup skins, and 1 hair seal skin, and they are receipted for by I. Anderson, Deputy United States Marshal, Oonalaska, the 14th August, 1886); the item 403 seal skins mentioned in the inventory are fur seal skins; this inventory gives a full and correct list of all the furniture, tackle, and cargo of said vessel, with the exception of the following: arms and ammunition, octant, and one chronometer. There is one boat belonging to the "Thornton" that was sent down on the "San Diego" and included in the inventory of the "San Diego." The "Thornton" had four boats.

JOHN C. CANTWELL, *3rd Lieutenant,*
United States Revenue Marine.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of September, A. D. 1886, after having been read over by me to deponent.

(Seal.) ANDREW T. LEWIS, *Clerk,*
United States District Court.

JOHN U. RHODES, being duly sworn, deposes and says:—

Q. State your name, age, and occupation? A. John U. Rhodes, over 21 years of age, and lieutenant in the United States Revenue Marine, and attached to the Revenue steamer "Corwin," and was so on the 1st August, 1886.

Q. State what happened on the last named day in connection with the schooner "Thornton?" A. I was on the "Corwin" at the time the "Thornton" was seized on that day. We first picked up a boat bearing the name "Thornton;" it had about eight dead fur seal in it, the men in the boat had breech-loading rifles; we afterwards picked up another boat, and then sighted the schooner "Thornton," and went on board, and was put in charge of her. We afterwards picked up two more boats; the men in the boats claimed that the boats belonged to the "Thornton," and were put on board of her. There were between fifteen and twenty dead fur seal on deck and one hair seal. These seals were most of them bleeding and evidently recently killed. The captain and several of the hunters said they had killed twenty-one, I think it was, fur seals that day, and would have got more if they had had more daylight and if the cutter had not come up.

Q. Do you recognize these papers? A. I do. This paper marked (Ex. "G") is the clearance paper of the schooner "Thornton" (this paper represents the British steam schooner "Thornton," Haus Guttormsen, master 2230 tons, navigated with fifteen men, bound for the Pacific Ocean, Behring Sea, and Okhotsk Sea, on a hunting and fishing voyage, as having cleared from Victoria, British Columbia, the 15th May, 1886). This paper marked (Ex. "H") is her bill of health (issued