

Mr. A. S. Hill said that, after the assurance of the right honorable gentleman, he would not, of course, proceed further with his amendment. He had, however, received a cablegram from Canada on the subject.

Mr. Bryce asked for some information as to what had passed between the Government and the Canadian Government and the nature of the terms that had been arranged.

Mr. W. H. Smith said the Government had satisfied themselves that the Canadian Government had accepted the view he had provisionally indicated. He would endeavor to give the House further information on the subject as soon as possible.

Sir G. Campbell wanted a more explicit assurance on the subject of compensation and expressed the hope that the British taxpayer was not to become liable.

The amendment was withdrawn and the clause was added to the bill, as was also clause 2.

On clause 3 (application and construction of act and short title).

Mr. G. O. Morgan referred to the phrase "marine animal," and asked whether it was likely to include whales.

Mr. W. H. Smith said the phrasology of the clause had been carefully considered, but of course Her Majesty's Government did not intend to prohibit the catching of whales.

The clause was agreed to, and the bill reported without amendments to the House. The House resumed.

Mr. W. H. Smith appealed to the House to allow the bill to be read a third time now. It was of great importance, and it was also desirable that no delay should take place.

Sir W. Harcourt joined in the appeal and hoped that no objection would be taken to the course suggested by the right honorable gentleman. He asked the First Lord of the Treasury to lay on the table of the House the communications which had passed with the Canadian government.

Mr. W. H. Smith said there was no reason why the House should not be placed in possession of the information.

Mr. Sexton hoped that the First Lord of the Treasury would appreciate the forbearance of the Irish members in allowing the bill to be read a third time. [Laughter.]

The bill was read a third time.

LINCOLN.

*Mr. Lincoln to Mr. Blaine.*

No. 472.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
London, June 10, 1891. (Received June 19.)

SIR: Referring to my dispatch numbered 470 of 6th instant, I have the honor to inclose herewith the report of a short debate which took place in the House of Lords on the 8th instant, when the Bering Sea bill was passed, after having been slightly amended on the Marquis of Salisbury's motion.

I have, etc.,

ROBERT LINCOLN.

[Inclosure in No. 472.]

[From the Times, June 9, 1891.]

The Marquis of Salisbury, in moving that the bill be read a second time, said: "The measure I am now submitting is one to enable Her Majesty to stop seal hunting on the part of British subjects in Behring Sea for terms to be specified in an order in council. The first aim of this provision is to enable Her Majesty's Government to come to an agreement with the United States to suspend the hunting for seals in Behring Sea, or a great part thereof, during the ensuing season. As your lordships are aware, there has been for some time a very vigorous discussion proceeding between the United States and this country. The United States have asserted claims over the open sea, and a right to stop the hunting of seals in that sea, which Her Majesty's Government have not admitted and can not admit. After much discussion we have