

DECISION OF BEHRING SEA
TRIBUNAL.

After a preamble stating the case submitted for decision, the full text of the award runs as follows:

"We decide and determine as to the five points mentioned in Article VI., as to which our award is to embrace a distinct decision upon each of them.

"As to the first of said five points, we, Baron de Courcel, John M. Harlan, Lord Hannen, Sir John S. D. Thompson, Marquis Emilio Visconti-Venosta, and Gregero W. W. Gram, being a majority of said arbitrators, do decide as follows:

"By the ukase of 1821 Russia claimed jurisdiction in the sea now known as Behring Sea to the extent of 100 Italian miles from the coasts and islands belonging to her, but in the course of the negotiations which led to the conclusion of the treaty of 1824 with the United States and the treaty of 1825 with Great Britain, Russia admitted that her jurisdiction in said sea should be restricted so as to reach a cannon shot from shore. It appears that from that time up to the time of the cession of Alaska to the United States, Russia never asserted in fact or exercised any exclusive jurisdiction in Behring Sea, or any exclusive rights to the seal fisheries therein, beyond the ordinary limit of territorial waters.

"As to the second of five points, we, Baron de Courcel, John M. Harlan, Lord Hannen, Sir John S. D. Thompson, Marquis Emilio Visconti-Venosta, and Gregero W. W. Gram, being a majority of said arbitrators, decide and determine that Great Britain did not recognize or concede any claim upon the part of Russia to exclusive jurisdiction as to the seal fisheries in Behring Sea outside the ordinary territorial waters.

"As to the third point, as to so much thereof as requires us to decide whether the body of water now known as Behring Sea was included in the phrase 'Pacific Ocean,' as used in the treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia, we unanimously decide and determine that the body of water now known as Behring Sea was included in the phrase 'Pacific Ocean,' as used in said treaty.

"On the fourth point, we decide and determine that all the rights of Russia to jurisdiction, and to the seal fisheries, passed to the United States, limited by the cession."

On the fifth point, the decision of the tribunal, Justice Harlan and Senator Morgan dissenting, was as follows:

"On the fifth point we, Baron de Courcel, Lord Hannen, Sir John S. D. Thompson, Marquis Emilio Visconti-Venosta, and Gregero W. W. Gram, being the majority of said arbitrators, decide and determine that the United States have no right to the protection of or property in the seals frequenting the islands of the United States in Behring Sea, when the same are found outside the ordinary three-mile limit.

"And whereas the aforesaid determination of the foregoing questions as to the exclusive jurisdiction of the United States leaves the subject in such a position that the concurrence of Great Britain is necessary to the establishment of regulations for the proper protection and preservation of fur seals habitually resorting to Behring Sea, we, Baron de Courcel, Lord Hannen, Marquis Emilio Visconti-Venosta, and Gregero W. W. Gram, being a majority of the arbitrators, assent to the whole of the nine articles of the following regulations as necessary outside of the jurisdiction limits of the respective Governments, and that they should extend over the waters hereinafter mentioned:—

"Article I.—The United States and Great Britain shall forbid their subjects, respectively, to kill, capture, or pursue at any time or in any manner whatever, the animals commonly called fur seals within a zone of sixty miles around the Pribiloff Islands, inclusive of the territorial waters, the miles being geographical miles, sixty to a degree of latitude.

"Article II.—The two Governments shall forbid their citizens or subjects to kill, capture or pursue, in any manner whatever, during a season extending in each year from May 1 to July 31 inclusive, fur seals on the high sea in that part of the Pacific Ocean, inclusive of Behring Sea, situated north of the thirty-fifth degree of north latitude, or eastward of the one hundred and eightieth degree of longitude from Greenwich until it strikes the water

boundary described in Article I. of the treaty of 1867 between United States and Russia, following that line up to Behring Straits.

"Article III.—During the period of time in the waters in which fur sealing is allowed, only sailing vessels shall be permitted to carry or take part in fur-sealing operations. They will, however, be at liberty to avail themselves of the use of such canoes and undecked boats, propelled by paddles, cars, or sails, as are in common use as fishing boats.

"Article IV.—Each sailing vessel authorized to carry on fur sealing must be provided with a special license issued for the purpose by its Government. Each vessel so employed shall be required to carry a distinguishing flag prescribed by its Government.

"Article V.—The masters of vessels engaged in fur sealing shall enter accurately in an official log book the date and place of each operation, the number and sex of the seals captured daily. These entries shall be communicated by each of the two Governments to each other at the end of each season.

"Article VI.—The use of nets, firearms, or explosives is forbidden in fur sealing. This restriction shall not apply to shotguns when such are used in fishing outside of Behring Sea during the season, when such may lawfully be carried on.

"Article VII.—The two Governments shall take measures to control the fitness of the men authorized to engage in sealing. These men shall have been proved fit to handle with sufficient skill the weapons by means of which seal fishing is carried on.

"Article VIII.—The preceding regulations shall not apply to Indians dwelling on the coast of the territories of the United States or Great Britain carrying on fur-sealing in canoes or undecked boats, not transported by or used in connection with other vessels, and propelled wholly by paddles, oars, or sails, and manned by not more than five persons, in the way hitherto practised by the Indians, provided that such Indians are not employed by other persons, and provided that when so hunting in canoes or undecked boats the Indians shall not hunt fur seals outside the territorial waters under contract to deliver skins to anybody. This exemption is not to be construed to affect the municipal law of either country, nor shall it extend to the waters of Behring Sea or the waters around the Aleutian Islands. Nothing herein contained is intended to interfere with the employment of Indians as hunters or otherwise in connection with the sealing vessels as heretofore.

"Article IX.—The concurrent regulations determined with a view to the protection and preservation of the fur seals shall remain in force until they have been wholly or in part abolished or modified by a common agreement between the United States and Great Britain. Said concurrent regulations shall be submitted every five years to a new examination, in order to enable both Governments to consider whether, in the light of past experience, there is occasion to make any modification thereof."

The arbitrators make a special finding on the facts agreed upon by the agents of both Governments with reference to the seizure of British vessels in Behring Sea in 1887 and 1889. In addition, the arbitrators make certain suggestions to the two Governments, the most important being that they should come to an understanding to prohibit the killing of seals on land or sea for a period of from one to three years, and should enact regulations to carry out the findings of the arbitrators.

HERE'S WHAT HE IS.

The life insurance agent is not a bore. He is a creator of wealth. He is a saver of estates. He is a payer of mortgages. He is almoner to widows. He is the protector of orphans. He is an organizer of comfort. He is a promoter of thrift. He is a shield from squalor and crime. He keeps the store open. He keeps the mill running. He holds down the farm. He is the maker of sunshine. He is an encourager of the prattle of children. He is a teacher of duty. He is a preacher of righteousness. He is a consoler. He is a benefactor. He is a philanthropist. He is a hero. Oftentimes he is a martyr, and it is just possible that he may save your estate by that policy you took to get rid of him, and you call him a "bore."—A. W. Kimball, in *Lever and Fulcrum*.

HE WAS SATISFIED.

Country boys who are inclined to think that life in cities is easy and comfortable compared with their daily toil in the country, are apt to find themselves mistaken when they come to town and subject themselves to the high pressure system of business establishments. An amusing example of this sort is related by a country exchange.

A farmer's boy went to the city, finding the work at home rather tiresome, and obtained a situation in a large "family supply" store where a "rushing business" was carried on. He "took hold" very well and his employers liked him.

They were surprised, however, when he came to them before he had been two months in the store and said:

"Well, Mr. A—, I guess I'll have to get through here next Saturday night."

"Get through?" said his employer. "Why, what's gone wrong?"

"Oh, nothing particular."

"Aren't you treated well?"

"First-rate, but I'll tell you just how it strikes me. Up on the farm we used to have the threshing machine come once a year, and then we threshed for three days, and you'd better believe we worked hard, but I tell you what, I've been here now seven weeks and you've threshed every day! I guess I've got enough of it."

He went back to the farm convinced that a farmer's life has its compensations.—*Youth's Companion*.

FORKS IN FRANCE.

Forks were introduced into France by Henry III. It seems that in 1754 he had been tendered a magnificent reception in Venice. At this entertainment forks were used. The royal guest observed them with great interest and immediately introduced them to the French court. A lady who saw them used for the first time at a dinner given by him said:—

"They never touched the meat with their fingers, but with forks, which they carried to their mouths, bending their necks and bodies over the plates.

"There were several salads. These they ate with forks, for it is not considered proper to touch the food with the fingers. However difficult it may be to manage it, it is thought better to put the little forked instrument in the mouth than the fingers.

"Then artichokes, asparagus, peas and beans were brought. It was a pleasure to watch them try to eat these with their forks, for some who were less adroit than others dropped as many on their plates and on the way to the mouth as they were able to get to their mouths.

"Afterward a great silver basin and pitcher of water were brought, and the guests washed their hands, though it seems as if there would not be much scent of meat and grease on them, for they had touched their food only with those forked instruments."—*American Grocer*.

PULP WOOD.

It is said that the operators in pulp wood in northern New York have posted notices at places where this product is delivered for sale or shipment, to the effect that no wood will be received that is less than four inches in diameter at the smaller end. This, it is thought, will prevent the cutting of small sized poplar and spruce, and thus save waste of growths that are not much larger than staddles. This is a wise measure. The annual consumption of pulpwood is enormous, and the temptation is to the destruction of small trees that should be left to grow into greater value. The capacity of pulp mills in this country has increased from 72,000 tons twelve years ago to 700,000 tons a year, and 3,500 cords daily are required to feed them. If the smaller growths of trees are cared for the supply will last many years, but it is wanton waste to cut the land clean. The New York operators have taken a step in the right direction.—*Northwestern Lumberman*.

—The people of the United States in 1892 consumed per capita 6.54 pounds of coffee and 1.37 pounds of tea. Coffee is imitated there in many ways besides being adulterated, and when the price of coffee is high, the substitutes are largely purchased by poor people.—*Rio News*.