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SEAL FISHERIES.

Secretary Blaine on the Controversy with England.

OUR RIGHTS IN THE BEHRING SEA.

The American Premier Pays His Respects to Lord Salisbury in a Lengthy Communication to Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British Minister.

WASHINGTON, May 8. - Secretary Blaine last evening made public his latest communication on the Behring sea matter. It is addressed to Sir Julian Pauncefote, the British minister, and reads as follows:

Sign: The modification which Lord Salisbury suggests in the questions for arbitration do not wholly meet the views of the president, but the president changes the text of the third and fifth in such manner, it is hoped, as will result in an agreement between the two governments. While Lord Salisbury suggests a different mode of procedure from that herein embodied, the president does not understand him actually to object to the question, and he therefore assumes that it is agreed to. therefore assumes that it is agreed to.

The six questions as now proposed by the president are as follows:

First—What exclusive jurisdiction in the sea now known as the Behring sea and what exclusive rights in the seal fisheries therein did Russia assert and exercise prior and up to the time of the cession of Alaska to the United

Second-How far were these claims of jurisdiction as to the seal fisheries recognized and conceded by Great Britain?

Third-The body of water now known as the Behring sea included in the phrase "Pacific Ocean" as used in the treaty of 185 between Great Britain and Russia, and what rights, if any, in the Behring sea were held exclusively by Russia after said treaty? Fourth-Did not all the rights of Russia as

to jurisdiction and as to the seal fisheries in Behring sea east of the water boundary, described in the treaty between the United States and Russia of March 30, 1867, pass unimpaired to the United States under that treaty?
Fifth-Has the United States any right, and if so, what right of protection of property in the fur seals frequenting the islands of the United States in Behring sea, or such seal found outside the three mile limit?

Sixth-If the determination of the fore-going questions shall leave the subject in such a position that the concurrence of Great Britain is necessary in prescribing regulations for the killing of fur seal in any part of the waters of Behring sea, then it shall be further determined: 1. How far, if at all outside the ordinary territorial limits is it necessary that ordinary territorial limits, is it necessary that ordinary territorial limits, is it necessary that the United States should exercise an exclusive jurisdiction in order to protect the seal for the time living upon the islands of the United States and feeding therefrom? 2. Whether a closed season (during which the killing of seal in the waters of Behring sea outside the ordi-nary territorial limits shall be prohibited) is necessary to save the seal fishing industry, so valuable and important to mankind, from de-struction. 3. What months, or parts of months, should be included in such season, and over what waters should it extend?

The president does not object to the additional question respecting alleged damages to English ships proposed by Lord Salisbury, if one condition can be added, namely: That after the United States shall prevail, all the seals taken by Canadian vessels during the period shall be paid for at the ordinary price for which skins are sold. This seems to the president to be the complement of Lord Salisbury's proposition, and he doubts not that it will secure his lord-

Here follows a lengthy argument as to the statements made in Lord Salisbury's dispatch of Feb. 21, in which the bury's dispatch of Feb. 21, in which the British premier complains that Mr. Blaine did not deal with certain protests made by Lord Londonderry and the Duke of Wellington in 1822. Mr. Blaine points out that the points urged by these representatives at that time have nothing to do with the points now at issue. He they proceeds: at issue. He then proceeds:

Two or three instances of the power which Great Britain exercises beyond the three mile line have already been quoted, but have failed thus far to secure comment or explanation from Lord Salisbury. Another case can be added, which perhaps is still more to the point: added, which perhaps is still more to the point:
In 1889—two years ago—the British parliament enacted a law, the effect of which is fully shown by a map inclosed herewith. Far outside the three mile line the parliament of Great Britain has attempted the control of waters beyond the northeastern section of Scotland, 2,700 square miles in extent; to direct that certain methods of fishing shall not be used within that great body of water under a prescribed penalty. It will be observed that the inhibition is not alone against British subjects, but against "any person."

jects, but against "any person."

If Great Britain may thus control an area of 2,700 square miles of ocean on the coast of Scot land why may not the United States prescribe land why may not the United States prescribe a space around the Pribyloff islands in which similar prohibitions may be enforced? The following would be the needed legislation for such a purpose by congress, and it is but a paraphrase of the act of parliament: "The fur seal board may, by law or bylaws, direct that the methods of scaling known as spearing or harpooning, or with firearms, shall not be used within a line drawn from the shores of Pribyloff islands sixty miles in the Behring sea, and said board may from time to time make and revoke bylaws for the purpose of this section, but no such bylaws shall be of any validity until it has been confirmed by the secretary of the treasury. 2. Any persons who use such method of scaling in contravention of such bylaws shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$500 for the second or any subsequent offense,

bylaws shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$100 for the first offense and not exceeding \$500 for the second or any subsequent offense, and every spear, harpoon or firearm attempted to be used in contravention of such bylaw may be seized and destroyed or otherwise disposed of as said seal board may direct."

In the opinion of the president, Lord Salisbury is wholly and strangely in error in making the following statement:

"Nor do they (the advisors of the president) rely as a justification for the seizure of British ships in the open sea upon the condition that the interest of the seal fisheries give to the United States government any right for that purpose which, according to international law, it would not otherwise possess."

The government of the United States has steadily held just the reverse of the position which Lord Salisbury has imputed to it. It holds that the ownership of the island upon which the seal breed, that the babit of the seal in regularly resorting hither and rearing their young thereon, that their going out from the islands in search of food and regularly returning there, all the facts and incidents of their relation to the island give to the United States a property interest therein; that this property interest was claimed and exercised by Russia during the whole period of its sovereignty over the land and waters of Alaska; that England recognized this property interest so far as recognition is implied by abstaining from all interference with it during the whole period of Russia's ownership of Alaska and during the first nine years of the sovereignty of the United States. It is yet to be determined whether the lawless intrusion of Canadian vessels in 1896 and subsequent years has changed the law and equity of the case theretofore prevailing.

I have the honor to be, with the highest con-

alling.

I have the honor to be, with the highest conderation sir, your most obedient servant,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

MORE FOREST FIRES.

Narrow Escape of a Train Load of Flame Fighters.

HALF A DOZEN BURNED TO DEATH

The Men Forced to Take Refuge in a Brook, the Water of Which Was So Hot That Many Were Severely Scalded-Michigan's Dread Visita-

KEATING SUMMIT, Pa., May 12 .-While the forest fire was raging intensely a work train of the Sinnemahoning Valley railroad, in charge of Superintendent Badger, with seventy men on board, steamed out of town and up into the woods to fight the flames. The train proceeded about five miles from Austin, into the heart of the forest, when intense heat and blinding smoke put an end to its further progress. An attempt was made to reverse the course of the train and retreat, but it was too late. The train was overtaken and caught fire. All hands jumped from the cars and sought safety in a creek that flowed near by. The water of the creek was boiling hot, and all the men were severely scalded. Superintendent Badger was overtaken by the flames while running and was burned to death. His charred remains were found late yesterday afternoon.

The fire is now under control. Thirty persons are badly injured, fifteen of them

Six Others Roasted to Death. It is known that six others also miserably perished at once or died soon after, and thirty others of the party were badly burned, many probably fatally, owing to fears that they inhaled the flames that seemed to fairly spring into their faces. Seven others of the party are missing, and their fate is unknown though they are likely to the control of the party are missing, and their fate is unknown though they are likely to the control of the party are missing. known, though they are likely to be in the charred wood of the logs of the train. A wrecking party started for the scene as soon as the fearful news spread, many relatives of the men injured insisting on accompanying the wrecking train, though they will hardly be able to reach the place of the wreck unless the fires have burned themselves

Under a Pall of Smoke.

KEATING SUMMIT, Pa., May 12 .- One of the largest forest fires for many years is raging south and east of Austin on the land of F. H. and C. W. Goodyear. The fire has been burning since Satur day. It is estimated that 30,000,000 feet of logs and 10,000 cords of bark have been destroyed, beside ten miles of tram

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., May 12.—This city was buried all day yesterday under a pall of smoke. Occasionally shifting ashes fell, telling the story of the raging forest fires, which continue with unabated fury in all directions. Reports from the Pine Creek regions are that the mountain sides are all ablaze. Bald, Eagle mountains, east, west and south of this city, are burning, while the hillsides to the north are invisible, owing to the smoke, which tells of other fires.

CURWENSVILLE, Pa., May 12 .- Forest fires have been raging here for over tw weeks past, and they have broken out afresh. A great deal of damage has been done to valuable timber lands, but so far no buildings have been burned. The local fire companies succeeded in controlling the fire close to the town, which was in imminent danger.

Losses at Warren, Pa. WARREN, Pa., May 12.—Forest fires have been raging in this vicinity since Saturday afternoon. High winds have fanned the flames and destroyed prop-erty as follows: Six oil rigs of Brown & Kegan; forty-eight rigs of A. J. Thompkegan; forty-eight rigs of A. J. Thompson, together with pump station and five oil tanks, one 600 barrels and four 250 barrels. Two rigs of Morck & Boyer; three rigs of S. H. Briggs. R. R. Armor lost eight rigs, together with pump station and two 250 barrel tanks; F. P. Hue lost twelve rigs; Best & Cable, sixteen; Midland Oil company, six; Allen Higgins & Co., two. Property owners are paying \$1.25 per hour for men to fight the fire, which is under control. The loss will be \$200,000.

WHOLE VILLAGES DESTROYED. Michigan's Fearful Experience with

the Fire Fiend. DETROIT, Mich., May 12 .- Each additional report from the region of the forest fires shows that damage, instead of being exaggerated, has been underestimated. Altoona, a small village ten miles from Morley, is in ashes. Big Rapids reports that fires are raging in several places in that county. A report from Bear Lake, a small settlement in the northern portion of the county, states that several houses were set on fire by sparks from the forest, fully half

Harrison, the capital of Clare county, had twenty-four hours of imminent danger, and summoned help from other villages. Clinton, a small station on the Toledo, Ann Arbor and North Michigan road, was wiped out.

Millions of Logs Destroyed.

Wagner & Pierce had 2,000,000 feet of logs and Hyde Bros. 1,000,000 feet burned. Farwell was burned, with all the houses in the settlement. The conflagration is now spreading in all direc-

A train which arrived here from the north brought news of the burning of the railroad station and a train of freight cars at Batchelor. Manistic county, and the destruction of 100 rods of railroad track, 1,000,000 feet of lumber and 1,000,000 shingles. The towns of Dodge and Baldwin, the county seat of Lake county, are both still in danger, as the rain has had but little effect on the fierce fires now burning there. Deer flerce fires now burning there. Deer Lake, Osceola county, had a narrow es-cape, nothing but the arrival of a steam engine from Grand Rapids saving the

So imminent was the danger that the inhabitants had packed all their goods, and in many cases buried the most valuable in the ground, while a crowd of men stood about the only brick building in the property of the stood about the only brick building. in town in, which all the more valuable

goods were stored.

The Flint & Pere Marquette railroad bridge, on the Mt. Pelia branch, was burned.

The Flint & Pere Marquette round-house at Reed City was set on fire and burned by sparks from the woods. Late dispatches from Batchelor state that the town has gone, with 2,000,000 feet of learning.

LOCKED OUT BY THE BOSSES.

Building Operations in New York Paralyzed by the Move. NEW YORK, May 12.—The Lumber Dealers' association has declared a general lockout. Not one foot of lumber was delivered in New York yesterday, nor will any be delivered until the back bone of the labor union is broken or the dealers themselves succumb. Eighty lumber dealers, employing in all 3,500 men, comprise the Lumber Dealers' association, and other dealers are joining daily. This lockout will affect probably 15,000 men in this city. It was precipitated by the striking of thirty men in Bucki's shops, and by the subsequent falling out of men from three other Building operations will be paralyzed until the controversy is at end. Of the 3,500 men idle today not more than 25 per cent, belong to the union. The lumber dealers will not deliver one foot of lumber until the boycott against the shops of Decker, Schuyler and Buckin is raised. They will, it is said, stop the delivery of lumber to all buildings where union men are employed, and will refuse to give credit to or have business dealings with lumber merchants who do sell lumber to contractors or firms engaged on buildings where union

men are employed.

The dealers say they can stand the siege as long as it holds, but building contracts now under way must be got through or money will be lost.

Jimmy Larkin Wins. NEW YORK, May 12.-Jimmy Hagan, of Philadelphia, 122 pounds, met his first defeat in the prize ring last night, Jimmy Larkin, the famous cross coun try runner and 122 pound champion prize fighter of New Jersey, defeated him in the fourteenth round. The battle took place before the members of the Granite club, of Hoboken, an organiza tion recently started and composed of all the influential sports of Jersey. The purse was \$1,500. The men entered the purse was \$1,500. The men entered the ring at 10:45 p. m. Jere Dunn was referee. Walter Campbell and Jack Fogarty were the seconds for the Quaker city lad. Tom Murray and Jack Hines attended to the wants of Larkin.

It was give and take from the very start. After the fifth round Larkin had everything his own way. Towards the

start. After the fifth round Larkin had everything his own way. Towards the close of the encounter Larkin pounded his opponent all over the ring. It was a most brutal exhibition after the fourth round, and in the last round many of the spectators had to turn away, the Philadelphia lad's face being a mass of blood. He was knowled down nine blood. He was knocked down nine times in the last round and, finally, out of pity, the referee stopped the affair and declared Larkin the winner.

Visiting His Old Home.

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 12.-Ex-President Grover Cleveland is visiting this city. This is the first visit he has made to Buffalo since November, 1885, when he came home to vote for the state ticket that year. Last night Mr. Cleveland addressed a meeting given in his honor by the German Young Men's association, and this forenoon he held a public reception at the mayor's office. To-night he will speak at the opening of the Cleveland Democracy's new club

Caused by Reckless Driving. READING, Pa., May 12 .- Five young men of this city hired a double team of Liveryman J. S. Moyer, under pretense of going to Birdsboro, but instead they drove recklessly in the suburbs. In going down Chestnut street the team became uncontrollable and dashed into a elegraph post. One of the horses was killed and the other badly crippled. Joseph Kinney, who was driving, was thrown upon his head and severely in-jured. The carriage was demolished.

Mr. Gladstone III. LONDON, May 12.-Mr. Gladstone is the latest of the prominent men of Great Britain to be announced as on the sick list. In the forenoon he seemed in his usual health, but in the afternoon he was seized with a succession of shivering fits. Alarmed at the symptoms, Mrs. Gladstone sent for Sir Andrew Clark, who, though not pronouncing Mr. Gladstone's illness to be of a very serious nature, declares that he must not leave his room for several days. not leave his room for several days.

The Pennsylvania Court Sustained. Washington, May 12.—The supreme court affirmed the judgment of the supreme court of Pennsylvania in the case of the Pullman Palace Car company ainst the state. The court holds that the state law taxing the company on a basis proportionate to the total number of miles of railroad within the state over which the company's cars ran, compared with the total number of miles of railroad in the United States over which the cars ran, is constitutional.

More Short Termers Jailed. More Short Termers Jailed.

Philadelphia, May 12.—P. M. Stackhouse, of 2446 North Tenth street, and M. Hall, who resides at 1502 Allegheny avenue, were arrested late last night on a warrant sworn out by Frederick Weidmeyer, who charges them with having obtained money by false pretense. Stackhouse, who is a well known up town real estate agent is the president town real estate agent, is the president of the Perpetual Guarantee Saving Bond Investment company, of which Hall is

A Disputed Tax Question. READING, Pa., May 12.—In the court of common pleas was commenced the trial of the suit of the Reading school district against Bishop Howe, trustee of the Episcopal Diocesan school, to re-cover over \$100 school tax. This is a test case to determine the question whether an institution of this character is a charitable institution and exempt from taxation

Terrific Boiler Explosion. LONDON, May 12.—A terrific explosion, caused by oil gas, occurred in the fore hold of the British oil tank steamer Tancarville, Capt. Carter, which was undergoing repairs in the dry dock at Newport. Eight men were instantly killed and twenty-five injured. The force of the explosion was so great that the fore deck was torn from its fastenings and blown off.

Only One Escaped. St. John's, N. F., May 12.—Particulars of the wreck of the Swedish bark Helga on Renews Island show that thirteen out of the crew of fourteen were drowned in the surf. Alexander Allison succeeded in swimming ashore.

Italy Will Not Appeal to the Powers. LONDON, May 12.—A dispatch to The Standard from Rome denies, on official authority, that Italy has any present intention of appealing to the powers in reference to the New Orleans affair.

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exercises in the Field, the Shop, and the Laboratory.

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