

ALL SEAL SKINS EXCLUDED.

IMPORTANT PROVISION OF THE NEW SEALING BILL.

Importation of Any Skin, Whether Raw, Dried or Manufactured, of the Animal Captured in Open Sea, is Absolutely Forbidden.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—It has developed that the bill relating to pelagic sealing, which has just passed both branches of congress and is before the president, contains a provision of far-reaching importance which has thus far escaped attention. This is an absolute prohibition of the bringing of seal skins into the United States.

As the United States is the largest market in the world for seal skins, this complete stoppage of the trade in this country will be a severe measure against the British and Canadian industries, which take and cure the skins, and then dispose of them largely in the United States.

The provision is as follows: "Section 9. That the importation into the United States by any person whatsoever of seal skins, taken in the waters mentioned in this act, whether raw, dressed, dyed or manufactured, is hereby prohibited, and all such articles imported after this act shall take effect shall not be permitted to be exported, but shall be seized and destroyed by the proper officers of the United States."

Those who are thoroughly familiar with the bill say this provision is of far more importance in its effect than the prohibition against pelagic sealing by Americans. The correspondence which has passed between Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Canadian premier, and Gen. Foster, the American negotiator, has just been made public. It consists of two letters. In the first, dated Ottawa, November 24, Sir Wilfrid Laurier says he is willing to enter upon a review of the whole seal question, though the Paris awards was made revisable only at the end of five years, provided the other questions of importance to the two countries, immigration, reciprocity, fish protection, etc., be considered at the same time. He declines, however, to suspend sealing in the meantime. He suggests that if a joint commission to consider all questions at issue, including this, be at once appointed, it would be possible to secure the necessary legislation from parliament at the February session and from congress during the present session to insure the legislation with regard to Bering sea next season.

The second letter is from Gen. Foster to Sir Wilfrid, dated Washington, December 2. Gen. Foster says that Sir Wilfrid's answer amounts to a declaration of his proposition and a renewal of the Canadian proposition made at the conference and that the president declines, to reverse his position on that point. Gen. Foster expresses regret that Sir Wilfrid's visit to Washington gives so little promise to satisfactory results, but entertains the hope that it may yet bear good fruit.

NOMINATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Among the nominations sent to the senate today by the president were the following: William Penn Nixon, to be collector of customs for the district of Chicago. John L. Hodges, to be assayer in charge of the Denver mint. Joseph H. Spear, Jr., to be surveyor of customs for the district of San Francisco. William P. Williams, appointed assistant treasurer at Chicago, had the support of Secretary Gage in his candidacy, and also all the bankers of Chicago. He is secretary of the Union League Club. William Penn Nixon has been identified with the Inter Ocean as editor and part owner for many years, running back beyond 1880, when he was a staunch supporter of Gen. Grant for the third term nomination. There were no opposing candidates for the office. Senator Cullom

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asked for the appointment of Mr. Nixon soon after the election of President McKinley.

Confirmations. The senate confirmed these nominations: Ethan Hitchcock, of Missouri, minister to Russia. Archibald J. Sampson, of Arizona, minister to Ecuador. W. L. Finch, of Wisconsin, minister to Paraguay and Uruguay. Laurian S. Swenson, of Maine, minister to Denmark. George H. Bridgeman, of New Jersey, minister to Guatemala and Honduras. W. A. Thomas, Jr., of Maine, minister to Sweden and Norway. Sam Gordon, to be register of the land office at Miles City, Mont. Joseph M. Rhoades, to be receiver of public moneys at Miles City, Mont. To be Indian agents: Harlin C. Baird, of Nebraska, at Santee Agency, N. D. W. Smead, of Montana, at Flathead Indian Agency. Thomas P. Fuller, of Montana, at Blackfoot Indian Agency. J. C. Clifford, of Montana, at Tongue River Agency.

The following were confirmed as consuls: Frank M. Brundage, of Pennsylvania, at La Chapelle, Germany. Augustus G. Seyfert, of Pennsylvania, at Barranquilla, Colombia. Daniel Mayer, of West Virginia, at Buenaventura, Colombia. Chester W. Martin, of Michigan, at Amberg, Ont. Edward C. Monteth, of Idaho, at Chetnam, Ont. William W. Mills, of Texas, at Chihuahua, Mexico. C. P. Snyder, of West Virginia, at Ciudad Puerto Diaz, Mexico. John A. Barnes, of Illinois, at Cologne, Germany. J. C. Ingersoll, of Illinois, at Copenhagen, Denmark. Julian Phelps, of Iowa, at Crefeld, Germany. Edward C. Cramer, of Wisconsin, at Florence, Italy. H. S. Culver, of Ohio, at London, Ont. J. H. Hittell, of Ohio, at Nantes, France. Charles B. Harris, of Indiana, at Nagasaki, Japan. J. F. Darnell, of Indiana, at Nogales, Mexico. J. E. Keht, of Ohio, at Stettin, Germany. Stratford, Ont. Mifflin W. Gibbs, of Arkansas, at Tamate, Madagascar. A. B. Jones, of Alabama, at Tuxpan, Mexico. Alvin Smith, of Ohio, at Trinidad, West Indies. J. T. Hoke, of West Virginia, at Windsor, N. B. R. P. Skinner, of Ohio, at Marseilles, France. Frank W. Mahin, of Iowa, at Reichenberg, Bohemia. Richard Leibert, surveyor general of Colorado.

Also some prominent nominations in the navy. Teller Will Oppose Charles P. Bryan. Senator Teller said today he would oppose the confirmation of Charles P. Bryan to be minister to China. He continued: "I have known Bryan for many years, as he was formerly a resident of Colorado, and my personal relations with him have always been amicable. My opposition to his confirmation is based solely upon the ground that he has had no experience or training that would justify the government in selecting him for the most important mission we have at the present time. It cannot be doubted that certain European countries intend, if they can possibly find an excuse for doing so, to dismember China and divide up that great territory among them. It is hardly to be supposed that, under the circumstances, we would be unconcerned spectators of this proceeding; and for this reason we should have

in China one of the ablest and most experienced of public men."

In the Senate. WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Today's session of the senate was brief, the time being consumed in the introduction of bills and resolutions, several of the latter calling for information from various departments being passed.

One of the resolutions agreed to increase from \$50,000 to \$25,000 the amount to be expended by the government on the buildings at the trans-Mississippi exposition to be held in Omaha, and reduced by \$12,000 the sum to be expended upon the government's display. Allen of Nebraska introduced a resolution, which was passed, directing the postmaster general to inform the senate of all railway and steamship mail contracts made by the United States now in force. While of California presented a resolution, which was agreed to, calling on the president to inform the senate what action had been taken in behalf of J. K. Spring and Charles W. Neilson, citizens of California, held as prisoners in the republic of Colombia. Kyle of South Dakota introduced, and had passed, a resolution calling on the secretary of state for all papers from the Haytian government relating to Bernard Campbell.

On motion of Hale of Maine the senate then, at 12:45 p. m., went into executive session to consider the conference report on Klondike relief.

At 2 p. m. the senate adjourned until Wednesday, January 5.

In the House. WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—In the house, after the agreement on the conference report on the Klondike relief measure, the speaker announced several committees succeeded Kirkpatrick of Pennsylvania on Pacific railroads.

At 12:30 o'clock Boutelle of Illinois offered a resolution of regret at the death of Cooke. Tributes to the memory of deceased were paid by Boutelle, Foes, Henderson, Belknap, Royce, Mann, Brocius, Hopkins, Seymour, Craft, Moody, Prince and Peters.

At 2:10, the eulogies being concluded, the house adjourned to January 5.

A PIANO FOR XMAS. Those contemplating the purchase of a piano we invite to call and see our choice line of the following instruments: The celebrated Steinway, A. B. Chase, Estey, Emerson and Smith & Barnes pianos. These are the highest grade instruments on the market, which we sell for cash prices on easy payments. Sherman, Clay & Co., 715 Second avenue.

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READ Jordan's real estate adv., page 14. RAINIER Beer.

ENGLISH cured breakfast bacon, especially prepared for Alaska trade. Frye-Bruhn Co. RAINIER Beer.

THE MARITIME RECORD.

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY: Portland, Or., Dec. 18, 1897. Probable snow.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEATHER BUREAU. DAILY BULLETIN. Seattle, Wash., Dec. 18, 1897.

Table with columns: PLACE, Barometer, Max. Temperature, Min. Temperature, Wind, Direction, Velocity, Precipitation, Weather. Rows include Seattle, Pt. Angeles, Tatoosh, Spokane, Walla W., Ft. Canby, Roseburg, Red Bluff, Eureka, Sacra, San Fran.

SYNOPSIS. The barometric pressure is now high at all stations, there being no storm area apparent. The temperature is moderately low over the Northwest. Light rain has occurred at Port Angeles and also Roseburg. Seattle local report—Maximum temperature, 37; minimum temperature, 30; mean temperature, 34; weather cloudy; rainfall in past 24 hours, none. G. N. SALISBURY, Observer.

MARINE OBSERVATIONS. TATOOSH, Dec. 18.—4 p. m.—Barometer, 30.32; cloudy; wind east eight miles. Outward, ship Yosemite, in tow Sea Lion, 1 p. m. Outside, tug Pioneer and Sea Lion. PORT ANGELES, Dec. 18.—Barometer, 30.34; cloudy; wind northeast three miles.

MARINE NEWS. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—Arrived—Sir Thrasier, Nyack bay; schr Antelope, Coquille river; schr J. G. Wall, Tillamook; str Umatta, Victoria and Puget sound; str Wellington, Departure bay; str Del Norte, Grays harbor. Sailed—Bk Imperator, Port Townsend; bkn Monticome, Grays harbor; schr W. F. Jewett, Columbia river; str Mackinaw, Tacoma.

ASTORIA, Dec. 18.—Arrived—Ger bk Palawan, from Mazatlan. COOS BAY, Dec. 17.—Bar bound—Strs Arcata, Carina, Empire and Homer. SAN PEDRO, Dec. 17.—Arrived—C. S. Holmes, from Port Blakeley; schr Lucy, from Umpqua.

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