



Copenhagen, Liverpool, New Orleans, and New York ; and the Shipowners' Associations of Amsterdam, Dundee, Glasgow, Greenock, and Liverpool. There were also present average adjusters, underwriters, and lawyers from Amsterdam, Glasgow, London, Liverpool, and Manchester.

The first meeting took place at Glasgow, under the presidency of Lord Brougham, assisted by Lord Neaves. Papers were read, discussions ensued, and, finally, a series of resolutions were passed known as Glasgow Rules.

Having drawn up their rules in language which appears not ill adapted for conveying their meaning, the Glasgow meeting fell into the natural yet grievous error of employing an English Parliamentary draughtsman -to put it into legal form -an error which cost them four years, and was, perhaps, fatal to their enterprise. Their concluding resolution was, that a Bill should be drawn up on the basis of these eleven rules, with the expectation that eventually steps might be taken for obtaining for their Bill such legislative sanction in this and other countries as would attain the object they had in view.

The Committee for managing the affairs of Lloyd's, on receipt of the report of their representative who was present at Glasgow, passed, at their meeting of October 10, 1860, two resolutions, the first of which expressed the thanks of the Committee to the several gentlemen who had come from abroad to attend this conference, and the second declared, " That this Committee take a strong interest in the subject discussed at Glasgow, and that they will gladly co-operate in the endeavour to carry out the very desirable object sought to be attained."

Six months had been assigned by the Glasgow meeting as the time to be given for turning their eleven resolutions into Parliamentary language. The task occupied two years, and the result was a very long, very obscure, and perfectly unsatisfactory Bill of 126 clauses. What was, perhaps, worst of all, the Committee of Lloyd's did not like the Bill, and appear to have extended their dislike to the whole scheme.

In 1862, many of the same delegates crossed the Atlantic and the Channel, with a real beyond all praise, to meet their English colleagues in London. No representative of Lloyd's was this time present to welcome them. Not permitting themselves to be discouraged by a reception so different from that which the previous attitude of Lloyd's Committee had led them to expect, the members steadily addressed themselves to their task, and, under the presidency of Sir Travers Twiss, for several days laboured through the clauses of the obnoxious Bill. Code-making, it was evident, was not an English accomplishment. Eventually, the Bill was found unmanageable, and the London Congress separated, after passing a resolution that another method of procedure should, for the future, be adopted; that a Committee should be appointed to decide upon and bring into shape a Bill or series of resolutions, having for their object the establishing one uniform system of general average throughout the mercantile world.

This Committee consisted of the following members :-E. E. Wendt, of London, chairman ; L. R. Baily, Liverpool ; J. R. Bradford, Boston ; L. C. Driebeck, Rotterdam ; T. C. Engels, Antwerp ; S. Gram, Copenhagen ; G. W. Hastings, London ; W. J. Lamport, Liverpool ; E. Van Peborgh, Antwerp ; E. N. Bahusen, Amsterdam ; P. H. Rathbone, Liverpool ; R. M. Smith, Edinburgh ; J. J. Svensen, Copenhagen ; E. Thune, Copenhagen ; J. Wertheim, Amsterdam ; and B. Lowndes, Liverpool, Secretary.

The Committee, consisting of persons living at a distance from one another, carried on an interchange of argumentative discussion by means of a number of papers or pamphlets, which were printed and circulated amongst themselves. The ground being thus cleared, they were prepared for a third meeting or congress, which took place in the summer of 1864, at York. Sir Fitzroy Kelly, afterwards Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, presided; and there were present, besides the members of the Committee, many of the gentlemen who had attended the Glasgow meeting ; amongst whom I must not omit to mention the Hon. W. Marvin, formerly judge of the Admiralty Court of Florida, who took an important part in the proceedings, and has since published a valuable report addressed to the American Boards of Underwriters, whom he represented, giving an account of our proceedings, and appending much useful information as to foreign laws of average, some of which I have made use of in these appendices.

At the York meeting, the following code of rules, dealing with the principal points as to which there is at present a diversity of practice in different countries, was drawn up.